



Weekend



HARRY HAMBURG/AP

Rep. Joe Wilson took heat for insulting Obama.

Safe at Home? S.C. voters back heckling lawmaker | **4**

9/11 Online: Museum site compiles amateur footage | **5**



Pre-Judged: 'Idol' fans have mixed reactions to Ellen | **35**

lookout

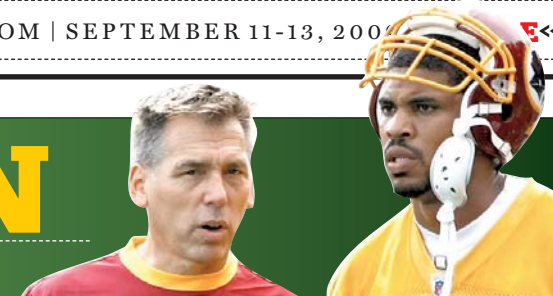
Tossed and Found:

Spice up your space with vintage pieces from thrift shops, flea markets and more. >> **28-29**



POINTS MEN

KICKOFF: CAN THE REDSKINS SCORE BIG THIS YEAR? | **21**



COLIN BRALEY/AP

NASA Test-Fires New Moon Rocket

HAVING A BLAST: A plume of sand and dust rises into the Utah sky Thursday during the first test of NASA's powerful new moon rocket. For more than two minutes, flames roared from the 154-foot Ares I, anchored to the ground on a hill above the Great Salt Lake. The Ares I has been a centerpiece of NASA's \$100 billion plan to return to the moon, first suggested by President George W. Bush in 2004.

Ranks of Uninsured Up in '08

Report also shows poverty at highest rate since 1997

WASHINGTON | The number of Americans without health insurance rose to 46.3 million last year as people began losing jobs and coverage in the current recession. The poverty rate hit 13.2 percent, an 11-year high.

The Census Bureau's annual report released Thursday offers a snapshot of the economic well-being of American households for 2008, the first full year of the recession. It does not capture the economic impact in the first half of 2009, when hundreds of thousands of Americans lost their jobs and likely their health insurance.

The figures show about 46.3 million people were uninsured last year. That is higher than the 45.7 million in 2007, due to the steady erosion of employer-provided health insurance. The percentage of Americans without health coverage rose to 15.4 percent, which is not statistically different from 15.3 percent in 2007.

The nation's poverty rate rose to 13.2 percent, up from 12.5 percent in 2007. There were 39.8 million, or nearly 1 in 7 people, living in poverty in 2008, an increase of about 2.5 million from the previous year. (AP)



eyeopeners



HILARIOUS

Use These Quotes Out of Context Now

A drunken driver offered baffled Darwin, Australia, police a dead fish Wednesday. "We don't know why he produced it and where he got it from. But, yeah, he was intent on showing it to them," said a spokesman. "I'm told it was a saratoga, not a very good one either, only about 30 centimeters long, apparently. ... As far as I know, it's still with the car now," he said. (EXPRESS)



ROBERT VOS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

BRIDES

Drowning The Gown

Women in their wedding dresses stormed a North Sea beach Wednesday in Scheveningen, Netherlands, intent on destruction — of their own gowns. Photographer/organizer Melanie Rijkers was inspired by the U.S. “trash the dress” trend, which she discovered online.

(EXPRESS)

ODDITIES

Birth Heralded by Something Other Than Searing Pain

Plenty of new babies can count Sept. 9, 2009, as their birthdays, and several can say they were born at 9:09, too. But Henry Michael Berendes, of LaCrosse, Wis., is still extra-special: He was born weighing exactly 9 lbs., 9 oz. Parents Chuck and Polly welcomed the infant Wednesday morning. (AP)

FEEL GUILTY?

“The first thing you think is, ‘That’s funny.’ But in reality, this is a violent crime, and there’s nothing funny about it to the victims.”

— TAMPA POLICE SPOKESWOMAN ANDREA DAVIS
ON THREE PAWNSHOP HEISTS BY THIEVES WEAR-
ING BEAUTICIANS' HAIR-WASHING SINKS AND CHILD
SAFETY SEATS ON THEIR HEADS



CATS

IM N UR RUBBLE WAITIN 4 U

A woman's cat has been found alive, buried beneath debris 26 days after a Franklin, Ohio, fire. Sandy LaPierre says she assumed 1-year-old Smoka had died. The day after the blaze, a demolition company tore down what was left of the building. A crew came back Sept. 4 to clear away the rubble and found Smoka's head sticking out from under 16 feet of debris. LaPierre says her cat lost a lot of weight and is having some difficulty walking but otherwise seems OK. (AP)

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Democrats Guarantee Health Bill

Pelosi says legislation will be sent to Obama by the end of the year

WASHINGTON | Democratic congressional leaders predicted passage of health care legislation within a few months despite Republican opposition, claiming momentum Thursday from President Obama's speech and renewed commitment from lawmakers after a month of meetings with constituents.



Pelosi

“I’m confident the president will sign a bill this year,” said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California.

Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada signaled separately the president may not prevail in his call for legislation that allows the federal government to sell insurance in competition with private industry. As long as legislation makes quality health care more accessible and affordable, “we will go forward with that bill,” Pelosi said. DAVID ESPO (AP)

Swine Flu Shot Is One and Done

Researchers relieved to find second dose of vaccine isn't needed

WASHINGTON | There's good news in the world's flu fight: One dose of the new swine flu vaccine looks strong enough to protect adults — and can spark protection within 10 days of the shot, Australian and U.S. researchers said Thursday.

Australian shot maker CSL Ltd. published results of a study that found between 75 percent and 96 percent of vaccinated people should be protected with one dose, which is remarkable, considering scientists thought it would take two doses.

U.S. data to be released Friday confirm those findings, and show the protection starts rapidly, said Dr. Anthony Fauci of the National Institutes of Health.

“This is quite good news,” Fauci said.

The dose question has an important ramification: It means people will have to line up for influenza vaccinations twice this



Research nurse Wendy Nesheim draws a dose of the H1N1 flu vaccine into a syringe during a clinical trial of the drug on Aug. 10 at Emory University in Atlanta.

195M

The number of doses of swine flu vaccine that the United States has ordered. They are scheduled to arrive in mid-October.

year instead of three times — once for the regular winter flu shot and a second time to be inoculated against swine flu, what doctors call the 2009 H1N1 strain.

The winter flu vaccine is widely available now, and U.S. health authorities urged people Thursday to get it out of the way now before swine flu shots start arriving in mid-October.

Waiting to get the first inoculation out of the way “is not in anybody's best interest,” said Dr. Nancy Nielsen, past president of the American Medical Association. She said busy doctors need to have completed regular vaccinations by the time they have to deal with H1N1 shots.

Thursday's swine flu vaccine reports center on adults; studies of the vaccine's effectiveness in children aren't finished yet.

LAURAN NEERGAARD (AP)



HYGIENE Clean-Shaven Stands A federal judge has dismissed a lawsuit challenging the Houston Police Department's ban on beards. The department says gas masks can't properly be worn with beards, but four officers filed a lawsuit saying the policy discriminates against officers with a skin condition that gets worse with shaving. U.S. District Judge Lee Rosenthal dismissed the lawsuit Sept. 3. Houston Police Chief Harold Hurtt said in a statement Thursday that the decision will allow officers to “safely do their jobs.” (AP)

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S.C. Voters Stand by Rep.

Legislator who yelled at Obama known for being mild-mannered

WEST COLUMBIA, S.C. | Rep. Joe Wilson is known as a mild-mannered congressman fond of making short speeches. His shortest got the most attention.

"You lie!" Wilson blurted out during President Obama's address to a joint session Wednesday, an outburst that made some supporters shudder even as others believed it could give Wilson a boost in his conservative hometown.

"He's the only one who has guts in that whole place. He'll get re-



Rep. Joe Wilson shouts, "You lie!" during President Obama's speech Wednesday.

elected in a landslide," said John Roper, an insurance agent, as he sat in a diner near Columbia.

Wilson apologized to the White House soon after the speech and

again Thursday. His heckle came after Obama said extending health care to all Americans who seek it would not mean insuring illegal immigrants.

The House version of the health care bill explicitly prohibits spending any federal money to help illegal immigrants get health care.

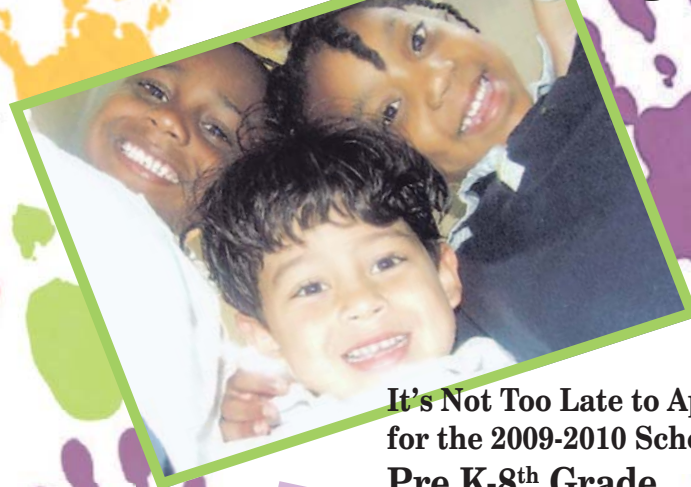
In Wilson's district, many voters said the heckle wouldn't affect their support for him, but most said they wished it hadn't happened.

"I'm a little embarrassed," said Roy Smith, a business manager who spoke as he ate breakfast in Cayce. "I voted for Joe and probably still will." SEANNA ADCOX (AP)

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HIRO OSHIMA/AP

In this frame grab from a video by Hiro Oshima, a jet crashes into the south tower of the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001.

Painful History Hits Web

Museum's new site compiles pics, videos from Sept. 11 attacks

NEW YORK | A camera in Brooklyn points through a chain-link fence at black smoke pouring from one skyscraper while a plane pierces another.

That evening — Sept. 11, 2001

“I and my family members don't want revisionist history, and we don't want this sanitized.”

—CHARLES WOLF
HUSBAND OF A WOMAN KILLED ON 9/11

— another camera finds firefighters trudging through dust-caked streets.

Such views of the terrorist attacks are among hundreds of hours of amateur videos, images and stories gathered by the National Sept. 11 Memorial & Museum. The organization launched a Web site Thursday — at <http://make-history.national911memorial.org>

— to compile citizen journalism of the tragedy.

“They say that 9/11 was the most digitally documented event of all time,” said Alice Greenwald, director of the planned museum. “We’re asking people everywhere to help us tell the story.”

Visitors will be warned about graphic images — people jumping, human remains, planes piercing the towers — and will have a choice of whether to view them.

Organizers say one of the most difficult tasks they’ve faced is how to present the most sensitive material. Some of it, with the warnings, will be available online and at the museum, which is scheduled to open in three years.

One victim’s family member said such images wouldn’t keep him away.

Charles Wolf was in his Greenwich Village apartment when he saw a jetliner pass overhead, then crash into the trade center — and his wife’s office.

“I and many family members don’t want revisionist history, and we don’t want this sanitized,” Wolf said. “It is very important that people remember what happened that day: This was civilization — people merely at work, caught up in religious fanaticism.” (AP)

Yale Student Vanishes Days Before Wedding

NEW HAVEN, CONN. | Police used search dogs and reviewed security camera footage Thursday as



Le

they tried to find a 24-year-old Yale University graduate student who vanished less than a week before her wedding.

Annie Le, a student in pharmacology, was last seen at her laboratory Tuesday, and her purse and cell phone were found in her office. Le planned to get married Sunday.

Yale spokesman Tom Conroy said there’s no evidence of foul play in the case at this time. (AP)

HEARSAY | GITMO

“We remain committed to doing this on the deadline that the president set. But there are many challenges.”

—JEH JOHNSON, PENTAGON GENERAL COUNSEL, DISCUSSING THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION’S PUSH TO CLOSE THE PRISON AT GUANTANAMO BAY BY JANUARY.

ARRESTS That Beer Won't Stay Cold Forever Authorities in the Florida Panhandle say they arrested a convenience store shoplifter who demanded to drink the 12-oz. beer he had stolen before being taken into custody. The Bay County Sheriff's Office says the man told the deputy he had recently lost his job of 13 years and wanted to drink the beer. The man became combative when the deputy wouldn't let him finish it. Bay County Jail officials said Thursday that George R. Linthicum II was in jail and did not yet have an attorney. (AP)



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Afghan Group Voids Votes

Officials throw out ballots from 83 sites, order partial recount

KABUL | A U.N.-backed fraud commission threw out votes Thursday from 83 polling stations and ordered recounts at hundreds of others in three provinces that form Afghan President Hamid Karzai's political base, reducing his chances of avoiding a runoff.

It was the first time the commission has flexed its muscles in the aftermath of an Aug. 20 presidential election marred by allegations of ballot stuffing, phantom polling stations and turnout at



A cyclist rides past a poster of Afghan President Hamid Karzai in Kabul.

some polls that exceeded 100 percent of registered voters.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Karzai's chief challenger,

former foreign minister Abdullah Abdullah, charged that the massive scale of what he called "state-engineered" fraud has become clear only as the numbers have trickled out over the past three weeks.

With results in from 92 percent of the country's polling stations, Karzai has 54 percent of the vote, according to the latest official count. That's enough to avoid a runoff election with Abdullah, who has 28 percent.

But if the U.N.-backed Electoral Complaints Commission invalidates enough votes, Karzai's margin could drop below 50 percent, forcing him to face Abdullah in a new vote. (AP)

Iraqi Shoe-Thrower Mulls Activism

BAGHDAD | The Iraqi television reporter who threw his shoes at then-President George W. Bush in one of the more bizarre episodes of the Iraq war might use his new iconic status in Iraq to promote humanitarian causes, his family said.

The reporter, Muntadhar al-Zeidi, is to be released Monday after nine months in prison. "He told me he is interested in working in a humanitarian organization or becoming an activist for women's and orphans' rights," his brother Dargham said. (AP)

HEARSAY | IRAN'S NUCLEAR AMBITIONS



"Iran not only does not want to make nuclear weapons, but is actually intensely against nuclear weapons."

—SAMAREH HASHEMI, TOP AIDE TO IRANIAN PRESIDENT MAHMOUD AHMADINEJAD, ON THURSDAY. HE SAID IRAN IS PROPOSING GLOBAL CONTROLS TO ELIMINATE NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

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World

PM's Absence Irks Israelis

Netanyahu is silent amid claims he lied to cover Moscow trip

JERUSALEM | Benjamin Netanyahu dropped out of sight for most of a day this week, a mysterious absence that has set off feverish speculation about what the Israeli leader was up to — and accusations he lied to cover up a clandestine trip to Moscow.

After initially issuing a vague statement about visiting a top-secret Mossad installation inside Israel, Netanyahu kept silent on Thursday as reports emerged that he had flown to Moscow aboard a private jet for urgent talks on Iran.

According to various accounts, the Israeli prime minister was either pushing the Russians to halt arms sales to Iran, or warning of an impending strike against Iranian nuclear facilities, or discussing the recent disappearance of a Russian-crewed freighter.



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu speaks during a Likud Party meeting in Tel Aviv, Israel, on Thursday. Netanyahu vanished for most of a day this week.

A shifting story line from Netanyahu's office and then silence have enraged the local media, which branded the prime minister a liar and painted his office as a chaotic scene of disarray.

"Anarchy, turf wars and lies," screamed a headline Thursday in the Haaretz daily.

"Look what happened to the prime minister on his way to Rus-

sia: His credibility, which was never sky high, took a hard blow," wrote the Maariv daily.

The affair erupted on Monday when reporters began inquiring about Netanyahu's whereabouts. His schedule had been cleared, but even the prime minister's media adviser, Nir Hefetz, admitted he did not know where Netanyahu was. JOSEF FEDERMAN (AP)

Afghan Reporters: NATO Reckless

Journalists accuse foreign troops of bias in Wednesday rescue

KABUL | Afghan journalists blamed a kidnapped colleague's death on what they called a reckless rescue operation by British forces and said Thursday that foreign troops have a "double standard" for Western and Afghan lives.

The death of Afghan translator and reporter Sultan Munadi during a raid that freed a British-Irish journalist for the New York Times could further fuel anger among



A man holds a photo of slain Afghan reporter Sultan Munadi on Thursday.

some Afghans over the conduct of foreign troops. That ire threatens to weaken support for the fight against a resurgent Taliban.

The Afghan journalists' accusations came as British Prime Minister Gordon Brown's office said that the rescue operation Wednesday in the northern province of Kunduz was an attempt to recover both Munadi and reporter Stephen Farrell and that it was authorized as the "best chance of protecting life."

Munadi, 34, died in a hail of gunfire during the commando raid — though it was unclear whether the bullets came from British troops or his Taliban captors.

Farrell was rescued unhurt.

KAY JOHNSON (AP)



NAMES Stop Smirking A British council has renamed a pudding due to "childish comments" from diners, *Dailymail.co.uk* said. *Spotted Dick* is now listed as *Spotted Richard* in the canteen at the headquarters of Flintshire council in North Wales. The *Pudding Club*, which aims to preserve traditional British desserts, predicted the new name wouldn't stick. (EXPRESS)



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World



An Iraqi man grieves while sitting in the ruins of a Kurdish village after a suicide truck bombing in Wardek, Iraq, on Thursday.

Truck Bomb Kills 19 in Iraq

Suicide attack flattens neighborhood of small Shiite Kurdish village

BAGHDAD | Kurdish lawmakers demanded the government step up security in northern Iraq after a suicide truck bomb flattened a neighborhood in a small village Thursday, killing 19 people and injuring 30 others in the most recent in a spate of attacks. Two suicide truck bombers targeted the Shiite Kurdish village of Wardek, about 35 miles southeast of Mosul, just after midnight.

Local security forces fired on the driver of one truck when he refused to stop, but he was still able to detonate his bomb. The second assailant in the other explosives-laden truck was shot and killed before his bomb exploded, local officials and villagers said. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the bombing, but it bore the hallmarks of al-Qaeda in Iraq and other Sunni insurgents who remain active in Mosul and surrounding areas in Ninevah province — a region where U.S. commanders have warned that insurgents appear to be trying to

stoke an Arab-Kurdish conflict. It follows several other deadly bombings in small villages of ethnic and religious minorities, indicating that insurgents are seeking out relatively undefended targets to maximize casualties as the Iraqi army focuses its efforts on more central areas. “The ongoing terrorist and criminal acts in Ninevah are aimed again at the Kurds, Turkomen, Shiites and Yazidis — they are ethnic cleansing operations,” said Abdul-Muhsin al-Saadoun, a lawmaker of the Kurdistan Alliance parliamentary bloc. DAVID RISING (AP)

213 Missing at Sea in Sierra Leone

FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE | More than 200 people, including many schoolchildren returning from holidays, were missing and feared dead Thursday, a day after a boat capsized at sea, authorities said. Thirty-nine passengers have

been rescued so far off the coast of the West African nation, said Naval Lt. Cmdr. Mao Suma, who is in charge of the rescue operation, which will continue at least until Saturday. Search teams have recovered 16

bodies, Suma said, and 213 people are missing and feared dead. “We are not expecting any more survivors because of the turbulence of the sea in the area where the accident happened,” Suma said. “The sea is so turbulent and the tide very strong that it is difficult for anyone to swim.” (AP)

\$7K

THE APPROXIMATE AMOUNT, in U.S. dollars, paid for a bottle of Australian wine at an auction this weekend. The Penfolds 1957 Shiraz St. Henri went for the highest price ever paid for a St. Henri. The wine was once considered a non-collectible, so vintage bottles are rare. (AP)

Metro Employee Struck by Train

Worker is hit between airport, Braddock Road stations in Va.

A Metro employee was struck by a six-car train about 10:40 a.m. Thursday, between the Braddock Road and Reagan National Airport stations, outside the tunnel from Potomac Yard, Metro officials said.

The victim, whose identity has not been released, was taken to a hospital, Metro spokeswoman Angela Gates said. According to Metro, the person may have sustained serious injuries.

General Manager John B. Catoe Jr. said Thursday morning that he's trying to figure out how an accident could happen



Metro personnel work at the scene in Alexandria where a train struck a Metro employee on Thursday morning. The victim may have serious injuries, Metro said.

after safety procedures have "intensified tremendously" over the summer in the wake of the June 22 crash.

"It's always a setback anytime you have an accident where someone's injured," Catoe said.

In August, two men died while doing work for Metro. A gravel-spreading machine struck and killed spotter Michael Nash on Aug. 9 during routine track maintenance work on the Orange Line.

On Aug. 18, Steven T. Griffith, an employee of a subcontractor, apparently touched a live wire while installing a new air compressor at the Bladensburg bus garage. Griffith died shortly after at a hospital. JAMES HOHMANN AND LENA H. SUN (THE WASHINGTON POST)

D.C. Gay Marriage Bill Drafted

The District is moving closer to becoming the first jurisdiction in the Washington region to permit gay couples to marry after 10 of 13 D.C. Council members signed onto a bill legalizing same-sex marriages, all but assuring the legislation will be approved and sent on to Capitol Hill.

After months of buildup and behind-the-scenes lobbying, Council member David A. Catania's bill is now drafted and he will soon introduce it. Catania, I-at large, expects a final vote on it before the end of the year and is buoyed that he's snagged a supermajority of his colleagues to stand with him for the battle ahead.

"For me, it's a particularly satisfying point in time to have a community and the council that is so committed to marriage equality," said Catania, one of two gay members on the council. "The acceptance, while not universal, is substantial."

TIM CRAIG (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Md. School Faces Auction Block

Church academy still open while officials negotiate foreclosure

The pastor says that heaven will help him keep his school open. But the auctioneer says that more earthly laws may prevail, and that the Progressive Baptist Church and Christian Academy in Temple Hills will be sold to the highest bidder later this month.

That came as a surprise to parents dropping off their children at the 150-student school Thursday



The Progressive Baptist Church and Christian Academy faces foreclosure.

morning, most of whom hadn't heard that the institution was in financial trouble. Many had just paid their bill for tuition, which starts at \$5,895 a year.

"I've paid for the first quarter. I don't believe this. And they're going on, business as usual," said Kim Kirksey, whose son goes to high school there.

The school is in foreclosure, and negotiations can continue until the auction, which is scheduled for Sept. 22. Pastor Don deJuan Massey, the founder of the school and church, said Wednesday that the school's fate is a matter of "God's intervention," and that it would not go on the auction block.

MICHAEL BIRNBAUM AND JAMES HOHMANN (THE WASHINGTON POST)



WHO KNEW?
Workers at DoodyCall, a professional pooper-scooper company, volunteered Thursday to help clean up the National Mall. The animals responsible for all the waste: geese.

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The Lotteries

Thursday, Sept. 10

DISTRICT

Mid-day Lucky Numbers	2-1-1
Evening Lucky Numbers (Wed.)	5-7-2
Mid-day DC 4	6-7-1-7
Evening DC 4 (Wed.)	1-0-2-6
Mid-day D.C. Five	0-0-0-1-3
Evening D.C. Five (Wed.)	9-3-2-8-8
Daily 6 (Wed.)	16-18-25-26-29-32 (34)

Hot Lotto (Wed.) 1-9-12-16-28 (11)

MARYLAND

Mid-day Pick 3	8-6-9
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	8-5-9
Mid-day Pick 4	2-5-8-7
Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)	5-3-8-9
Match 5 (Wed.)	5-14-22-29-38 (37)
Multi-Match (Wed.)	9-15-16-30-34-41

VIRGINIA

Mid-day Pick 3	6-9-0
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Evening Pick 3 (Wed.) 6-3-5

Mid-day Pick 4 2-7-4-8

Evening Pick 4 (Wed.) 4-2-0-8

Mid-day Cash 5 1-6-26-28-29

Evening Cash 5 (Wed.) 5-8-14-29-32

Win For Life (Wed.) 3-14-20-26-34-41 (6)

MULTI-STATE GAMES

Powerball (Wed.) 4-16-18-51-53 (23)

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NOMINATE NOW!

From now through Friday, Sept. 18, tell us about your favorite D.C.-area people, places and things in up to 150 categories. Then come back Monday, Oct. 5, to vote for the finalists. The winners will be announced Friday, Nov. 6.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Comics Store
Concert Series
Dance Club
DJ Night
Film Festival
Gallery
Indie Bookstore
Jazz Venue
Karaoke
Local Artist
Museum
Open Mic
Place to See a Blockbuster
Spot for Readings
Theater
Venue

SHOPS & STYLES

Accessory Source
Consignment Store
Florist
Gift Shop
Indie Hardware Store
Indie Home Decor Store
Indie Shoe Store
Indie Women's Boutique
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Men's Store
Place to Buy Crafts
Vintage Store
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Massage
Men's Haircut
Shave
Women's Haircut
Wax

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Gym
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Race
Snow Skiing Spot
Swimming Pool
Weird Sport
Yoga Studio
College Basketball Team
D.C. Team
Local Athlete Stadium

HOME & AWAY

Day Trip
Destination
Dog Park
Local Blog
Local Information Source
Metro Station
Monument
Neighborhood
Ongoing Political Issue
People-Watching Spot
Place to Go With Someone You Don't Like
Post-College Classes
Public Breakup Spot
Reason to Go To Baltimore
Reason to Travel Outside the Beltway
Senator/Representative
Unintentionally Funny Thing About D.C.
Volunteer Organization
Wedding Venue
Weird Landmark

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Italian
Kebab

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Place to Go If You're an Intern
Place to Meet Rich People
Place to Stick to Your Diet
Place to Take Your Parents
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sports

Tom Brady's back — so are the Patriots going to win another Super Bowl? | 23



tv lineup



Dale Earnhardt Jr. is seeking his fourth career victory in Richmond Saturday.

friday

7 P.M. Derek Jeter looks to surpass Lou Gehrig's hits record when the Yankees battle the Orioles. MASN
7:10 P.M. The Nationals travel to Florida to take on the Marlins, who are trying to keep their slim hopes of the NL wild card alive. MASN2

saturday

3:30 P.M. Notre Dame and Michigan play at the Big House with both football teams trying to regain their once-revered status. ABC
7:30 P.M. Dale Earnhardt Jr. and NASCAR's stars head to Richmond for the Chevy Rock & Roll 400. ABC
7:30 P.M. D.C. United hosts the Seattle Sounders in a rematch of the U.S. Open Cup final. CSN
8 P.M. Ohio State must play better than it did against Navy if its hopes to beat USC. ESPN
8 P.M. The women's final at the U.S. Open. CBS

sunday

1 P.M. The Ravens kick off the season against the Kansas City Chiefs. CBS
4 P.M. Roger Federer eyes his sixth-consecutive U.S. Open crown in Flushing, N.Y. CBS
4:15 P.M. New Redskin Albert Haynesworth looks to make an immediate impact as the Redskins visit the Giants. FOX

Is This the End Zone?

Campbell, Zorn feel the heat for Redskins to score more points

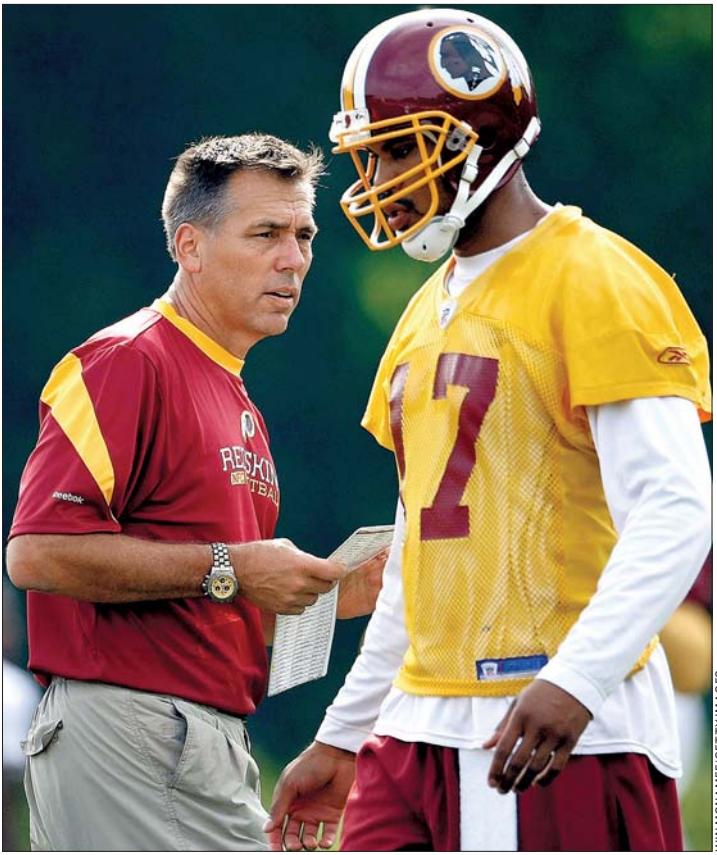
REDSKINS | It was a simple question with an obvious answer. But Jim Zorn's coy response to whether he held some of the playbook back in preseason games probably carried a different weight for fans who saw the footage.

They're certainly hoping he did. The guessing game ends Sunday when the Redskins travel to the Meadowlands to open the season against the New York Giants. There, against one of the best defenses in the NFC, Washington will start trying to right an offense that hasn't been consistently explosive in years.

While the Redskins spent big money to acquire defensive lineman Albert Haynesworth and resign cornerback DeAngelo Hall, last year's largest problem was the team's inability to get the ball across the goal line.

Washington scored just 27 touchdowns last season and surpassed the 20-point mark just seven times.

The offensive line was ravaged by injuries. The young receivers never developed. And quarterback Jason Campbell — while having his best season as a pro — rarely came up with a game-changing play. Campbell took the same public abuse any signal caller gets when his team isn't performing and was nearly shipped out of town.



Head coach Jim Zorn works with quarterback Jason Campbell after an off-season in which Campbell was nearly traded. Campbell has another shot to prove he belongs.

“It's not about me. It's about all of us in this together and trying to win games.”

—REDSKINS QB JASON CAMPBELL ON THE KEY TO SUCCESS THIS YEAR

Now, entering the last year of his contract, Campbell has one last chance, but he's not thinking that

way — at least not out loud. “It's not about me. It's about all of us in this together and trying to win games,” he said this week. Campbell certainly can't do it alone. He needs an improved offensive line play to stay upright. A repeat 1,400-yard rushing season from tailback Clinton Portis would go a long way, too. And second-year receivers Malcolm Kelly and Devin Thomas — much hyped,

THE BIG PICTURE Our sports staff has taken a last look at the Redskins' schedule to see where the wins and losses will fall. Week 8 is a bye, so we know they won't lose then.

WEEK	WIN	LOSE
1 at Giants 4:15 P.M., SEPT. 13		✓
2 vs. Rams 1 P.M., SEPT. 20	✓	
3 at Lions 1 P.M., SEPT. 27		✓
4 vs. Bucs 1 P.M., OCT. 4	✓	
5 at Panthers 1 P.M., OCT. 11		✓
6 vs. Chiefs 1 P.M., OCT. 18	✓	
7 vs. Eagles 8:30 P.M., OCT. 26	✓	
9 at Falcons 1 P.M., NOV. 8		✓
10 vs. Broncos 1 P.M., NOV. 15	✓	
11 at Cowboys 1 P.M., NOV. 22		✓
12 at Eagles 1 P.M., NOV. 29		✓
13 vs. Saints 1 P.M., DEC. 6		✓
14 at Raiders 4:05 P.M., DEC. 13	✓	
15 vs. Giants 8:30 P.M., DEC. 21		✓
16 vs. Cowboys 8:20 P.M., DEC. 27	✓	
17 at Chargers 4:15 P.M., JAN. 3		✓
OVERALL	7	9

but little accomplished last season — will be counted on from the first snap, in hopes their production can create more opportunities for deep threat Santana Moss. “Last year, our defense pretty much carried us the whole season,” offensive tackle Chris Samuels said. “Our offense was a little bit behind, but this year we've got to go out there and put up some more points and help them.” ERIC BRANDNER



CHARITY Kibbles 'N' Vick A Philadelphia animal rescue group will donate a bag of dog food for tackles of Eagles quarterback Michael Vick this season. The group is advertising the campaign across the country. The Washington Post is running one such ad stating that the organization will donate a 5-pound bag of dog food for each time Vick is tackled in the Eagles' game against the Redskins on Oct. 26. Vick signed with the Eagles last month after serving a 23-month prison sentence for financing a dogfighting ring. (AP)

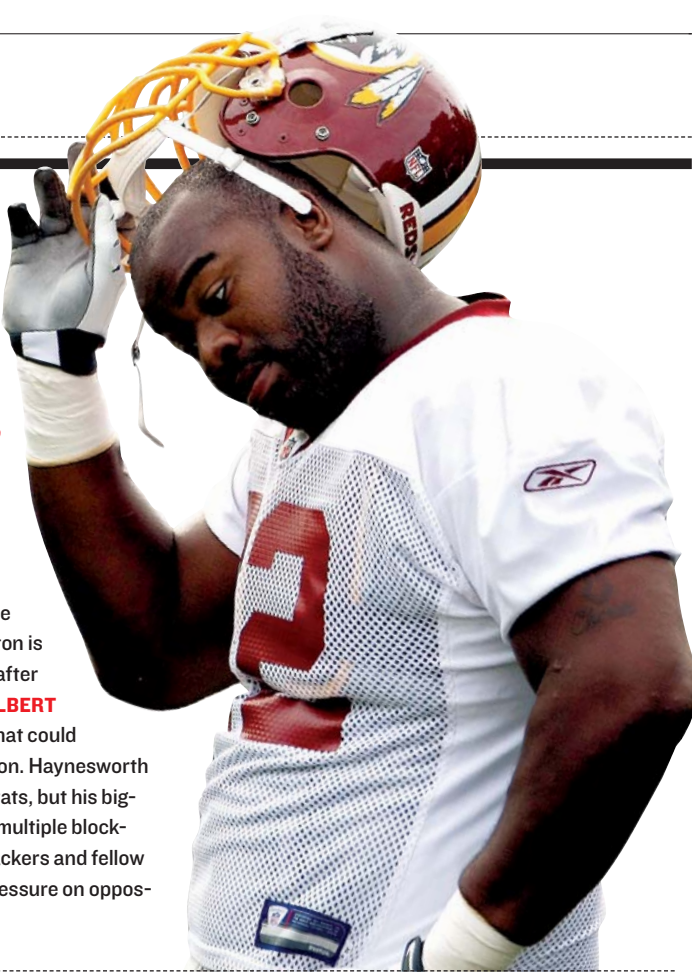
sports

THE BIG ISSUES

The difference between winning and losing in the NFL can be a fine line, and that could be especially true with a Redskins team that appears to have a strong defense but a questionable offense. That means Washington may have to find creative ways to score — through big plays on defense and special teams. As for the unit that’s supposed to tally points, a change in receivers may add some punch. MATT SWENSON (EXPRESS)

1 It's the Tackle, Dummy

The last time the Redskins made a big splash on the defensive like this was when they added Dana Stubblefield and Dan Wilkinson in the same off-season. Clearly, Washington is counting on opposite results after giving two-time Pro Bowler **ALBERT HAYNESWORTH** a contract that could end up being worth \$100 million. Haynesworth should rack up some gaudy stats, but his biggest value may be occupying multiple blockers, thus freeing up the linebackers and fellow defensive lineman to apply pressure on opposing quarterbacks.



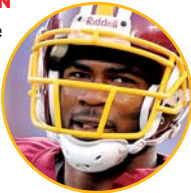
2 Rookie Rush

In an attempt to duplicate the formula that led the New York Giants to a Super Bowl victory two seasons ago, the Redskins beefed up their pass rush with two rookies: first-round pick **BRIAN ORAKPO** and supplemental draft choice Jeremy Jarmon. Even tough-to-please defensive coordinator Greg Blache is raving about these two youngsters. Given the team's dearth of sacks last year — which, in turn, made turnovers a rare commodity — the pair may end up paying big dividends almost immediately.



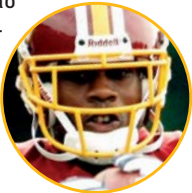
3 The Randle El Factor

Let's face it: **ANTWAAN RANDLE EL** hasn't made the same sort of contributions in Washington that he did in Pittsburgh. He's been demoted to third receiver already, and the pressure is mounting for him to perform better on special teams, especially returning kicks. He's averaged less than seven yards per punt return the past two seasons. With scoring at a premium, given last year's offensive struggles, Randle El is going to need to add a spark to justify the Redskins' signing him to a lucrative contract three seasons ago.



4 Sooner the Better

Devin Thomas seems to have a bit more natural ability than **MALCOLM KELLY**, yet it's Kelly's hard work that came through in the preseason when the two second-year wideouts competed for a starting job. And on Wednesday, it became official when coach Jim Zorn announced that Kelly will start opposite Santana Moss. The former Oklahoma Sooner provides a big target for quarterback Jason Campbell. As for Thomas, when Campbell says he needs to focus more, it's clear that he has a long way to go.



5 The Magic Touch?

Wherever new Redskins punter **HUNTER SMITH** holds, field goals seem to go through the uprights. That theory will really get put to the test this season in Washington with Shaun Suisham, who managed to survive a training-camp challenge to keep his job despite missing 10 field goals in 2008. This town loves a kicking controversy, and don't expect as long a leash if Suisham is off target. The same can be said for Smith if he shanks enough punts, a nearly annual tradition for Redskins kickers.



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Panthers (13-3)
Packers (10-6)
Seahawks (11-5)AFC DIVISION
WINNERSPatriots (14-2)
Ravens (12-4)
Texans (11-5)
Chargers (9-7)NFC WILD
CARDSFalcons
GiantsAFC WILD
CARDSSteelers
Colts

SUPER BOWL

Patriots defeat
Panthers
MVP: Randy
MossREDSKINS
RECORD

6-10

REDSKINS
COACH IN '10

Jon Gruden

LEAGUE MVP

Philip Rivers

TOP COACH

Andy Reid,
Eagles

TOP ROOKIE

Mark Sanchez,
JetsFIRST COACH
FIRED

Wade Phillips

WORST TEAM

Raiders (2-14)

NO. 1 DRAFT PICK

Dez Bryant,
Oklahoma State

NFL Power Vacuum

When Tom Brady went down in a heap to begin the 2008 season, it left room at the top for a half-dozen teams to emerge as legit contenders (Arizona) for the Lombardi Trophy. The Steelers answered the call, but in the meantime two rookie QBs led teams to the playoffs, and 11 squads replaced their head coaches. With a salary cap-free season looming, it could be a make-or-break year for a bevy of promising teams looking to get over the hump. CLINTON YATES (EXPRESS)

OUR '09
PICKSClinton
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EDITORNFC DIVISION
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Steelers (13-3)
Titans (10-6)
Chargers (9-7)NFC WILD
CARDSBears
PanthersAFC WILD
CARDSRavens
Colts

SUPER BOWL

Giants defeat
Steelers
MVP: Steve
SmithREDSKINS
RECORD

7-9

REDSKINS
COACH IN '10

Mike Shanahan

LEAGUE MVP

Eli Manning

TOP COACH

John Harbaugh,
Ravens

TOP ROOKIE

Percy Harvin,
VikingsFIRST COACH
FIRED

Marvin Lewis

WORST TEAM

Browns (3-13)

NO. 1 DRAFT PICK

Terrence Cody,
Alabama

2 North's New Stars

BRETT FAVRE hijacked another NFL off-season with his (non-)retirement antics, but his arrival in Minnesota has some fans in purple talking Super Bowl. With Adrian Peterson leading a powerful rushing attack and a vicious defense to boot, Favre could be the piece the Vikings were missing, assuming he can stay upright. Meanwhile, Jay Cutler landed in Chicago after asking out of a sinking ship in Denver and finds himself with higher expectations to meet than even Favre has in the NFC North.

3 The Team to Beat

In case you hadn't noticed, Pittsburgh has won two Super Bowls since New England won its last. If they add another title this year, the Steelers have a legit claim to the "team of the decade" title. They are led by the somehow still-underrated **BEN ROETHLISBERGER** and play with an age-old winning formula: rushing and defense. It sounds obvious, but the road to the title runs through Pittsburgh.

4 Too Close to Call

If you're seeking a great division battle, look no further than the AFC South. It's tough to guarantee success for the Colts after Tony Dungy's departure. **LENDALE WHITE** and the Titans are coming off a 13-win season but came up short in the playoffs. And if you still think that drafting Mario Williams No. 1 was a bad move, then you don't know that the Texans are a playoff contender after an 8-8 season.

5 Philly's Last Chance

For casual sports fans and dog lovers alike, **MICHAEL VICK** is no doubt the top story line of the season. Realistically, he's a last-ditch effort to find anything to help spark the Eagles' offense and bring a title to Philly. QB Donovan McNabb's future with the team is up in the air, safety Brian Dawkins is gone, and coach Andy Reid effectively starts the year on the hot seat. This could be the end of an Eagles era.

1 He's Back

Bill Belichick is apparently so confident in the comeback ability of his two-time Super Bowl MVP quarterback that the only backup on the Patriots' depth chart is an undrafted rookie. To be fair, the last time **TOM BRADY** was healthy and on the field, he torched various teams and NFL passing records en route to an undefeated regular season. No one will be happier to see Brady back than wide receiver Randy Moss, whose numbers dropped precipitously with Matt Cassell throwing in 2008. Brady's return is obviously a major upgrade for the Pats, but don't forget that even without him, the team won 11 games last year—and still missed the playoffs.



Sunday
PICK'EM

Matt Swenson
SPORTS EDITOR,
EXPRESS

Clinton Yates
SPORTS EDITOR,
EXPRESS

Dan Steinberg
D.C. SPORTS BOG,
THE WASHINGTON POST

Angie Goff
MORNING SHOW HOST,
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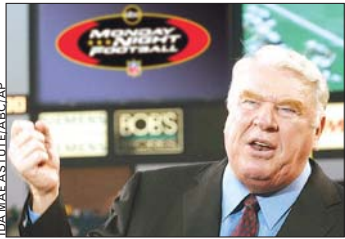
 REDSKINS (PLUS 6.5) AT GIANTS	GIANTS The Giants need wide receivers; the Redskins need a QB. We'll go with Eli.	GIANTS I will be picking against the mediocre Redskins until they win a game.	REDSKINS Can't even remember the Redskins' last NFC East road loss. Oh, wait.	REDSKINS This could come down to the Redskins' O-line versus the Giants' pass rush.
 EAGLES (MINUS 1.5) AT PANTHERS	PANTHERS Any game could be a playoff preview in week I. This one seems legit, though.	EAGLES I won't call Carolina overrated, but Delhomme is not the QB he once was.	PANTHERS Guess who drafted DeAngelo Williams and Jake Delhomme for his fantasy team.	EAGLES Soupastar McNabb starts off strong to ward off controversy when Vick returns.
 VIKINGS (MINUS 4) AT BROWNS	VIKINGS Would you go around advertising that Brady Quinn is your QB? Me neither.	VIKINGS The Browns have exactly one good player: D.C. native Josh Cribbs.	VIKINGS Unless Brett Favre decides to retire during the second quarter.	VIKINGS Hottie Brett Favre could win this one wearing just his Wranglers.
 BEARS (PLUS 4) AT PACKERS	PACKERS It seems to me that Green Bay really underachieved last season.	BEARS On a Sunday night, I'll take the stud Jay Cutler over the dud Aaron Rogers.	BEARS Unless Jay Cutler demands a trade during the second quarter.	PACKERS I could flip a coin on this one, but the nod goes to the Packers at home.

Madden to Serve As Adviser to Goodell

Hall of Fame coach to lead competition committee this year

NFL | Hall of Fame coach John Madden will serve as a special adviser to NFL commissioner Roger Goodell.

The league said Thursday that as part of his unpaid position, Madden will chair the coaches group in the competition committee. Madden will also participate in meetings of a general managers committee and be part of a weekly call with Goodell or another NFL



Madden will serve as an NFL adviser. official to discuss issues from the previous week's games. Madden retired from broadcasting in April. Goodell says that when Madden suggested helping out, "it was an offer we couldn't refuse." (AP)

Advertisement

LOCAL COMPANY OFFERS FREE LOAN MODIFICATION ASSISTANCE

The Dynamic Duo & Associates, a local Real Estate Firm brokered by Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Woodbridge, Virginia gives back to the community by offering Free Loan Modification assistance to any family or person in need of assistance. Joan Williamson, BBA and A. Racquel Sharpton, MBA co-owners of the Dynamic Duo & Associates, LLC specializes in Loan Modifications, Short Sales, Foreclosures, Luxury/Estate, Commercial, Investment and traditional Residential Resale properties.

The Dynamic Duo & Associates has been awarded many accolades to include PWAR Top Producer Award in 2008, 2007, and 2006, the International President's Premier Team Award... Joan Williamson of the Dynamic Duo team states "we have sold over **600** properties in the last **18 months**." A. Racquel Sharpton adds with a smile "our most recent accolade came from the Wall Street Journal; in June 2009, we were Ranked #19 in the Wall Street Journal Top 400 Agents. What an awesome accomplishment!" These ladies have proven to be leaders in this tough real estate market.

What is a loan modification?

As part of the loan modification process, Dynamic Duo & Associates will contact your lender and obtain the necessary paperwork to initiate the loan modification process on your behalf. Some people may ask, "what is a loan modification." A loan modification is when a homeowner request from the lender a workout solution to renegotiate their current loan, by either re-negotiating the principal balance, or where the lender modifies the existing terms of the loan to reduce the monthly payment for the borrower. This process allows the borrower to restructure their

loan to a monthly payment that is more affordable to the homeowner. Joan adds "the loan modification process is an extremely lengthy process taking anywhere from 3 to 4 months on average."

A Short Sale on the other hand is defined as the sale of real estate for less than the current mortgaged amount based on market value. Requirements of a short sale is for the real estate to be listed by a real estate agent, whereby the agent communicates with your lender, more specifically, the Loss Mitigation Department to request approval of the sale, which in turn will satisfy the debt owed on the real estate. An example of a short sale is as follows: Home purchased price = \$500,000, Current Market Value = \$300,000. Home Sales for = \$300,000. The difference in the mortgage amount is \$200,000. The lender forgives the borrower of the difference of the outstanding debt = \$200,000. Note: The lender does not allow for cash back to the borrower at closing. (Each file is reviewed on a case by case basis). A review of your financial situation by your lender is required on an approval of short sale. Approvals on loan modifications and short sales are given on a case by case basis and are not guaranteed. The lender may or may not report to your credit bureau. If so, your credit report will read "paid in full, less than full amount."

Joan adds "We are loan modification specialists, and can help you save your home from foreclosure. Some companies charge a substantial amount of money for loan modifications, but we offer loan modification services as a FREE service to homeowners. There are many options out there for people who have come to realize that a short sale or loan modification is actually needed. We have a broad base of experience in all aspects of real estate. People

owe it to themselves to talk to us adds Racquel."

Your Winning Team

Joan states "our team is committed to taking care of all of your real estate needs with a focus on customer service." The Dynamic Duo team consists of a total of 21 people, with 11 real estate agents and 10 staff members. The office is located at 4895 Prince William Parkway, Suite 201, Woodbridge, VA 22192. "Our goal is to provide a quick response as we are a team who truly cares about listening to and servicing your real estate needs. It is our personal mission to see that your selling or buying experience is one of joy and happiness added Racquel." "Whether you are buying, selling or in need of a loan modification, we will always tell you your options honestly (the good, bad & the ugly). The difference is experience and I believe our track record speaks for itself," explains Joan.

Over the past 3 years, the Dynamic Duo team has managed over 1100 foreclosures. "What most people don't understand is in the foreclosure market, we are experiencing a 'seller's market' with multiple offers on almost all properties. Days on markets are averaging about 35 days on market. Now is the best time to purchase investment property as rental income on many properties generally covers the mortgage adds Racquel."

"The Dynamic Duo can help to ensure that you get the home that is perfect for you and your family. With so many homes to choose from, you owe it to yourself to take the time to look. To help you find the perfect home is to get the help of a real estate agent," adds Joan.

A Dynamic Duo is born

Joan and Racquel met in 2002 when Racquel, a

military spouse, and her family relocated into the area on a PCS move from Fort Leonardwood to Fort Belvoir and sought out a local real estate agent and landed upon Joan. Due to the nature of their move, Racquel and her family required a quick response and a Realtor who would work hard and fast to find their perfect home. "I was very impressed with Joan's fast response and level of real estate knowledge and services. Joan and I formed a partnership the following year." Racquel explained.

How was the name Dynamic Duo formed? "Well... the name Dynamic Duo was developed out of one of our previous clients. One night a customer called us very late in a panic and requested our assistance in selling 3 properties, each valued over \$600,000 at the time. Mind you this was at the height of the foreclosure market. Racquel and Joan hopped in their vehicles and headed over to the customer's house where we consulted her on all possible options. We explained the good, bad and the ugly. Most importantly, we listened to this customer while she was in her frantic state. As a result, this customer became our client. We are happy to announce that we were able to sell two of the homes; the last home we assisted her in the loan modification process to resolve her immediate real estate needs on her other home. Hence the Dynamic Duo was formed out of our experience with this particular client as we were off to the rescues," provided Joan.

Please contact the Dynamic Duo & Associates at Coldwell Banker at 703 680 9551, or email asharpton@cbmove.com, or at www.HomesSolidAsARock.com.

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Converting
cheap homes
into rentals
can be a smart
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A Future in Fixer-Uppers

Buying homes 'as is' (without any repairs) can mean bargains if you shop carefully

When a seller lists a home "as is," it means he or she can't or won't negotiate with the buyer over any fixes or credits. The buyer can get an inspection and make an effort to know what problems there might be, but he or she's agreeing to take it without repairs.

Just about everything needed repairs in Mark Mueller and Charles Martinez's Northwest Washington house when they bought it in August to rehab it and make it their home. The four-story house in Bloomingdale had been gutted, its staircase, appliances and cabinets ripped out, leaving holes in the floor. It was sold "as is" by a developer who wanted to walk away, said Mueller, 42, who manages clinical research. The lack of things that could break worked in his favor, he thought. "We had the really great advantage of having it gutted, where we didn't have anything hidden," he said.

The standard local sales contracts say appliances; heating, cooling, plumbing and electrical systems and equipment; and smoke and heat detectors must be in "normal working order" when a house is sold. Art Konopka, a real estate lawyer in the District, said that, legally, it means only that the refrigerator cools food



MARCUS YAMITWP

Charles Martinez, left, and Mark Mueller sit on the front steps of their house on W Street NW. Mueller and Martinez bought the house "as is" — which meant gutted.

“WE ARE BABY BOOMERS, AND WE ARE LOOKING FOR ANOTHER WAY TO HAVE INCOME. IT PROVIDES GOOD CASH FLOW IF YOU HAVE INCOME ... FROM RENT.” **E7**

homebuyer'sguide



Left: This is what Mueller and Martinez's living room looked like back in December 2008. Right: The four-story home in Northwest D.C. came without staircases, appliances or cabinets — just holes in the floor.

Fixer Futures

CONTINUED FROM E1

and the freezer freezes water, not that the appliances are pristine and free of bumps and wheezes. So, in a typical sale, if one of those systems is not in normal working order, the seller has to fix it. Buyers can negotiate to get sellers to make other repairs, too.

But if a seller adds the “as is” clause to the contract and the buyer agrees to it, nothing except the smoke detectors, which are

required by local law, needs to work properly.

“They’re saying, ‘Come get it; come look at it,’ but under the contract, I’m not required to repair anything,” said real estate agent Adrian Hunnings.

Although Mueller and Martinez, 30, a registered nurse, had a contractor walk through the house before the contract closed, they did not order a home inspection. And although they have had no major surprises in the renovations — other than old news-

With an “as is” property, if problems are found during the inspection, the buyer can walk away.

papers, coin pouches and letters falling out of ceilings and walls — real estate agents and lawyers still recommend that buyers get an inspection.

“Generally, there’s more risk associated with an ‘as is’ purchase, so it requires greater due diligence, greater inspection,” said Stuart D. Kaplow, a real estate lawyer in Towson, Md. “But it may not mean there’s anything more wrong with the property.”

With an “as is” property, if problems are found during the inspection, the buyer can walk away from the deal within an allotted amount of time, as specified by the contract.

These days, owners of homes

listed “as is” are often banks, which have taken them back through foreclosure, or distressed owners trying to achieve a “short sale” for an amount less than what they owe on the mortgage.

Glen Baird, the principal broker at VirginiaMLS.com Realty in Fairfax, said sellers often list homes “as is” because they don’t want to have to come up with \$5,000 or \$10,000 to fix problems they know about — particularly termite issues, he said.

If sellers know of something

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If the seller adds an "as is" clause to the contract and the buyer agrees, nothing except the smoke detectors needs to work.

wrong with the property that would not be found in a normal inspection, they do need to disclose the defects. Not disclosing them could be fraud, Konopka said.

But bank-owned properties could have been vacant for months. Although a homeowner might know that the basement leaks, the bank probably wouldn't. And that means the buyer wouldn't know, either.



Mueller, left, and Martinez discuss paint colors for one of the bedrooms in the house. They've been renovating since August 2008.

"There's a slightly added risk factor there," Hunnings said.

However, not all buyers face a take-it-or-leave-it deal when buying foreclosures. David Sunlin, senior vice president in charge of bank-owned properties for Bank of America, said his company doesn't necessarily sell its homes in "as is" condition.

"We make a conscious effort to try to bring all properties up to what we consider to be neighborhood standards," Sunlin said. He added that they may negotiate with buyers over closing costs and repairs.

That helps the bank get a price that's closer to market value, he said. Bank of America also complies with all state disclosure laws, Sunlin said, though he acknowl-

CONTINUED ON E4



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Fixer Futures

CONTINUED FROM E3

edged that the company doesn't have as much opportunity to know about problems with homes as an owner-occupant might.

Laurent Bernard bought an "as is" foreclosed property in Centreville this month to turn into a rental. He said that although there's work to be done, there

“Generally, there's more risk associated with an 'as is' purchase, so it requires greater due diligence.”

—STUART D. KAPLOW,
REAL ESTATE LAWYER

haven't been any surprises from the inspection or subsequently. The air-conditioning was in bad shape, a skylight was leaking, and the floors had to be redone, but his first purchase of an "as is" property is going smoothly so far. Because he took on the added risk, Bernard said, he got a deal, paying about \$200,000 when the value on the tax record was \$270,000.

"The market was interesting for us," he said. "The price of the house was less than market value."

Find out as much as you can before buying an "as is" property, real estate agents and lawyers advise. Ask neighbors about the

home, and try to find out whether they know of any problems. Be particularly cautious of anything that looks odd or poorly maintained.

One thing that made Mueller and Martinez feel better when buying their "as is" home was a knowledgeable neighbor, who knew when the roof had been replaced, for example.

They paid \$360,000 for the home and got a \$300,000 construction loan. Work, which included exposing brick walls, adding cabinets and bath fixtures, underpinning the foundation and adding a deck to the top floor, is expected to be done in the next few weeks.

Carol McGee Taylor, a real estate agent in Mitchellville, said sometimes buyers of "as is" homes are disappointed once they get in and discover problems. She suggests that they buy warranties covering appliances and major systems. "Be prepared for things that are going to happen to the house," she said.

District-based agent Suzanne Des Marais, who helped Mueller and Martinez buy their house, cautioned buyers against shopping for "as is" properties solely online because "as is" could mean just about anything.

"It could be from the range of 'you could move in and live in it once you turn the utilities on' to 'you need to completely gut and renovate it,'" she said. TERRI RUPAR (THE WASHINGTON POST)

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KEVIN CLARK/TWP

Edward Green bought this property in Dumfries, Va., out of foreclosure for \$60,000.

Buy, Fix Up, Rent, Reap

Snapping up cheap properties with the intent to rent can be a smart investment

While it may seem crazy to bet on real estate for a steady retirement income these days, that is exactly what Edward and Olivia Green are doing.

With their golden years fast approaching — he is 64 and she is 60 — the husband and wife have snapped up five investment homes in the past three years. They hope to buy more as the struggling real estate market continues to produce cheap properties. Their portfolio includes a condominium apartment in Manassas; two houses in Prince William County; and two houses in Memphis, Tenn. Their goal is to buy cheap foreclosure properties, fix them up and rent them out.

The Greens said they prefer real estate to stocks and bonds because

Buying a fore-closed-on home, fixing it up and then becoming a landlord requires patience, vigilance and capital.

they can touch it, drive by it on a weekend and look at it — which gives them a level of comfort in the midst of a volatile economy.

Buyers such as the Greens seeking long-term cash flow from their holdings are emerging as the new investors of the bust. In many ways, they are reclaiming the term “investor” from the speculators who bought homes during the boom years with intentions to flip them for quick gains.

“At the peak of the bubble, you had a lot of people who called

CONTINUED ON E6

Did You Miss the Bottom of the Market?



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Buy, Fix, Rent


CONTINUED FROM E5

themselves investors but were really only buying a property with the hopes of selling it at a higher price to a greater fool later," said Michael D. Larson, a real estate and interest rate analyst at Weiss Research in Florida. "The long-term way to invest in real estate is to buy cheap and buy at a level where it is profitable to rent; traditionally, anything you got from appreciation was icing on the cake, not the cake itself."

In areas such as Prince William County, where sales of foreclosure properties have dragged down home prices but rent prices remain relatively strong, the Greens' strategy has become particularly popular, local real estate

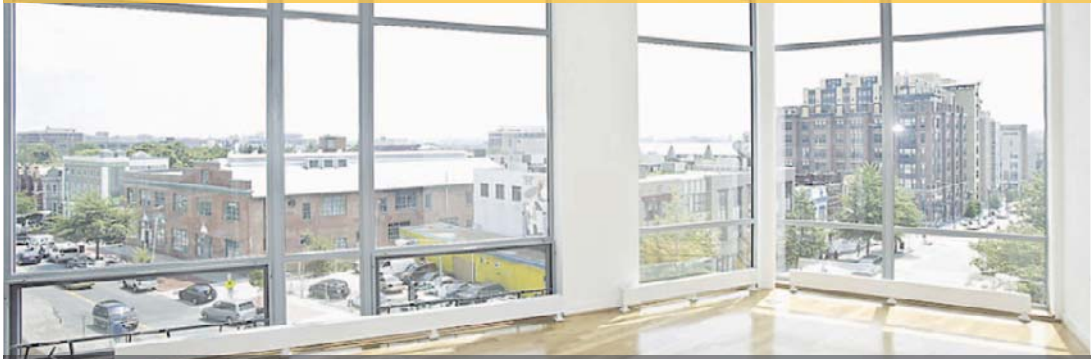


Edward Green fixes up his Dumfries property to rent. He and his wife own several properties in the D.C. area and in Memphis.



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agents said. Nevertheless, these are not easy times for those looking to profit from the bust. Lending standards have tightened, making mortgages for investors harder to come by. There is also no guarantee that home prices will end their free fall. Buying a foreclosed-on home, fixing it up and then becoming a landlord requires patience, vigilance and capital, and success is not certain.

Glenn Kelman, chief executive of Redfin.com, an online brokerage based in Seattle, said one of the first questions to consider as a potential investor is whether you want to become a hands-on landlord.

“They are often wearing a tool belt on the weekend and doing it all themselves.”

“If they don’t want to become a landlord, then they have to hire a property management professional, and that is going to cut into their investment,” Kelman said. “That is the fundamental decision that somebody has to make when going from a very liquid asset [such as stocks] to something that is not all that liquid —

and will make their phone ring in the middle of the night when the toilet clogs up.”

While rental income ideally provides a steady stream of cash, a tenant’s finances can fall prey to the souring job market. With the recent wave of foreclosures, potential tenants may also have shoddy credit ratings, meaning landlords need to decide whether they’re worth the risk.

Kelman said the best investors are often the “fix-it” types who can quickly size up how much they need to spend on a property to make it rentable. They are also the ones who are willing to spend their weekends and evenings making those repairs and maintaining the homes over time.

“They are often wearing a tool belt on the weekend and doing it all themselves,” he said.

Last month, Michael McNally of Chantilly paid \$53,000 for a three-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath house in Dumfries. To make the purchase, he cashed in a \$60,000 certificate of deposit that was earning interest at about 3 percent, he said.

McNally initially estimated that he would need about \$7,000 to get the property in shape. He now expects to come in about \$1,500 over that by his self-imposed

homebuyer'sguide

deadline of June 1. He has already redone some walls, added fresh paint, gutted and refurbished all three bathrooms, and put down new carpet.

McNally, an information technology manager for a government contracting firm, said he was inspired to get into real estate investment by his 85-year-old grandfather, who started buying properties as a side job in Pennsylvania in the 1970s. He now owns about 45 such homes that have been paid off, McNally said.

"He just rakes in all kinds of money," he said.

Danielle Babb, a real estate investor and a co-author of the book "Finding Foreclosures," said she has been approached by many people looking for such properties. Many are getting discouraged, she said, because banks are taking a long time to close on offers and finding financing has grown increasingly difficult.

Some would-be buyers, even those with pristine credit, are getting turned down by banks if they have risky loans on their credit reports. Credit card debts are also causing problems at closing, with some banks asking buyers to pay off such accounts, she said.

The best way to close a deal quickly is to pay cash, Babb said. If you need financing, make sure you're satisfied with the mortgages you have on the properties you already own, because it will become difficult to refinance once you start borrowing for other properties, she said.

The Greens bought their second property in 2007 using cash from a home-equity loan on the house where they live. The property is a three-bedroom townhouse in Woodbridge that had gone into foreclosure. Olivia Green, a real estate agent, had been showing the home to a military client who was interested in buying foreclosures.

"We opened the door, and it was a disaster inside," she recalled. "Even though she was looking for a foreclosure, she couldn't see the potential in that one; she couldn't see what could be done."

That evening, Olivia Green

spoke with her husband, who runs a home repair business. They went together to view the property. They decided that with some work, the home could fetch a good rent, so they paid \$235,000 in cash for it. Edward undertook about \$16,000 worth of improvements — new paint, appliances, countertops, hardwood floors and more. Once the work was done, Green called her client and told her about the improvements. The buyer who originally balked agreed to rent it for \$1,695 a month, Green said. That translates to a monthly profit.

In search of cheaper properties, the Greens researched other hard-hit parts of the country. They considered Detroit, looked into some communities in upstate New York and settled on Memphis, Tenn. They hired a local real estate agent through a family friend. The agent e-mailed photographs and descriptions of homes.

One of the first questions to consider as a potential investor is whether you want to become a hands-on landlord.

During a weeklong trip last year, the couple selected two houses. They bought one for \$16,000; it needed another \$16,000 in repairs. They paid \$35,000 for the other; it needed just minor touch-ups. Given the distance, they hired a property manager to rent those homes.

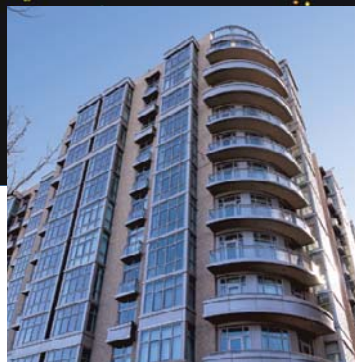
Their latest purchase was a three-bedroom, 2 1/2-bathroom townhouse in Dumfries they bought out of foreclosure for \$60,000. They hope to rent it this month.

"We are baby boomers, and we are looking for another way to have income," Edward Green said. "It provides good cash flow if you have income coming in from rent, and with what is out there now, this is probably our best bet."

ALEJANDRO LAZO (THE WASHINGTON

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TO SCORE VINTAGE ARTIFACTS FOR THEIR THOROUGHLY MODERN PADS | 28

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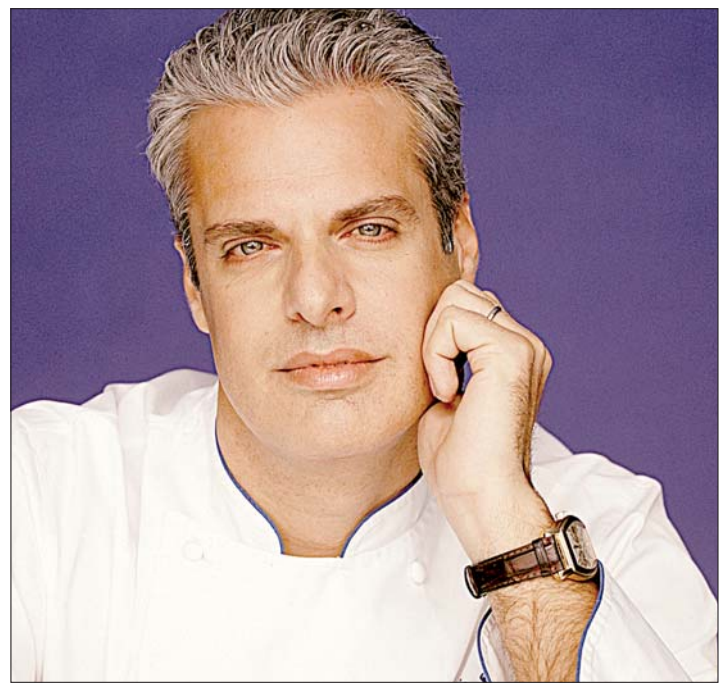
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CELEBRITY CHEF, TRAVELER, TOASTER OVEN FAN

Good-natured, silver foxy chef Eric Ripert (say it "rih-pair") hails from France, but he hangs his toque in America. Ripert began his U.S. career with legendary D.C. chef Jean-Louis Palladin. Now he helms New York's Gallic seafood palace Le Bernardin and D.C.'s West End Bistro. Known for gently critiquing contestants as a guest judge on "Top Chef," he just debuted his own PBS cooking show, "Avec Eric" (Sat., 1 p.m.).

Why'd you get into food TV?
I thought I could do interesting things. But "Avec Eric" is different. It shows me cooking at Le Bernardin and traveling to beautiful places where I interact with hunters, fishermen and farmers.

Does travel make you a better cook?
If you don't travel, your inspiration

shrinks. I live in New York City, and I don't see farmers or even trees. You need to get out of where you are and get exposed to new ingredients and talk to people.

Any foodie trips you'd suggest?
It doesn't have to be taking a plane and going to Thailand. Sometimes you can get inspired by going to another part of your city, like Chinatown or a South American neighborhood. Pick up things and talk to people. Or go to some exotic destination — just don't cop out and eat at the hotel buffet.

Do all these food shows make us better cooks?
Cooking shows have made us more aware. The more we talk about food, the more we document it in newspapers or on TV, the more people will be interested in cooking themselves.

Le Bernardin is seafood heaven. How do I cook good fish at home?
There are many tricks on telling whether fish is fresh. For one, it should never smell like fish. But the best thing is to have a relationship with your fishmonger. Ask what's just arrived.

"Get inspired by going to another part of your city, like Chinatown or a South American neighborhood."

OK, I bought my fish. Now what?
I think broiling is the easiest way to cook fish at home for a lot of people. Actually, you can do it in a toaster oven.

Really? Fish in a toaster oven?
I have a whole series of videos on my Web site (Aveceric.com) I call "Get Toasted," where I cook things like vegetables and seafood in a toaster oven. It's great for doing fish for one or two people. A, B, C, D and — boom! — it's cooked.

You have a rep for keeping cool in the kitchen. How do you keep from going all Gordon Ramsay?
When I was a young chef, I used to be pretty antic and tough on the cooks. But I realized that I was not happy to be angry and that the cooks were kind of paralyzed. So, I changed my philosophy to one of positive reinforcement. A happy cook has more of a chance to do good food.

Has D.C. changed as a food town since you started here in 1989?
Back then, it was very limited. But now Washington is a city of many chefs, from Michel Richard to Wolfgang Puck. It's dynamic, and there's a great variety.

JENNIFER BARGER (EXPRESS)



EVENT HORIZON District Sample Sale Frugalistas, get ready to rumble — or at least politely wait your turn to try on that dreamy DVF dress. The biannual haute rummage sale brings deeply discounted shoes, frocks, bags and more to a Georgetown storefront (3336 M St. NW) Sept. 16, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Tickets \$40; buy at Districtsamplesale.com. Shops participating include Luna, Wink and Urban Chic.



Forest Sheen

BYE-BYE, neon pink polish. Summer's bright nails have gone the way of beach weather; now, trendy talons get coated with such autumnal hues as smoky gray and rusty red. An unexpected favorite: MAC's "Beyond Jealous" lacquer in a blackened green (\$12, Maccosmetics.com). The mossy hue puts a new spin on the dark nail craze, but it's subtle enough that no one will mistake you for the witch's understudy in "Wicked."

2 Expression Impression

COWHIDE CARPETS **LOOK** — and feel — nice underfoot. But the whole dead-bovine vibe can make some people grumpy. FLOR's Find a Face floor tiles (six tiles \$180, Flor.com) bring smiles — and, OK, a few grimaces — to your place via the whimsical images of shutterbug Francois Robert. He sees human visages in everyday objects — parking meters, doorknobs, vintage cameras. FLOR screens these onto velvety, peel-and-stick squares ideal for an entryway, or, heck, a photo studio.



The Leather Report

FALL'S BEST FASHION TREND might be the resurgence of the little leather jacket. Style experts preach that it's the perfect throw-over-everything piece — unless, of course, you work for Senator Stuffington's office, where punk-princess cover-ups are likely to get you more raised eyebrows than compliments. An easier way to show off your edgy side: Schutz's ruched leather heels (\$195, Cusp, 3030 M St. NW; 202-625-0893), which fuse tough folds of leather into a polished pump.

Grab Bag



A Fast Bake

TIME-RICH, TALENTED CHEFS may have time to follow Julia Child's recipes for chocolate eclairs. Normal bakers (aka anyone with a job, kid, life or whose name isn't Ina or Martha) may prefer the quick desserts in "The Ultimate Shortcut Cookie Book" (\$25, Cumberland House). Easier-than-pie treats include Granola Macaroons starring store-bought sugar-cookie dough and Wicked Whiskey Chocolate Cookies using brownie mix and Southern Comfort. Pangs of baking inadequacy will likely be erased by the nearly instant gratification.



dear manolo

ANSWERS FROM THE SHOE BLOGGER

I've accepted a job on the other side of the country. In honor of the move, I'm going to redo my image at the ripe age of 28. I want to be one of the cool kids. What do you recommend? — KRISTY

■ Manolo says, asking the Manolo to give advice on how to be cool is like asking Donald Trump for advice on how to be less vulgar. You may get the coherent answer, but you can be certain that its source is entirely theoretical.

Having said this, the Manolo notes that coolness is more about attitude than clothing, and, indeed, the coolest



persons are often those whose dress is the most minimalistic. Consider Marlon Brando, who defined coolness dressed in nothing but the white T-shirt, Levi's 501s and Converse All-Stars. As you see, the leather motorcycle jacket, taken as the marker of the coolest of cats, is optional.

And here the Manolo must note that if you have to ask how to be cool, you've already lost. Coolness is the zen koan: He who wishes to be cool is not.

Look, here is the Reese (\$469, Zappos.com) from Elizabeth and James, the suede bootie to go with your new all-black wardrobe.



Ask the Manolo a question at manolo@shoeblogs.com. Visit the Manolo at shoeblogs.com.

ON THE COVER

A mix of vintage items and second-hand scores pepper the Reston-area home of Stu Eli and Janet Morales, here with son Otis, 1. They sell the same eclectic pieces in their online shop, Threepotatofourshop.com. Photo by Lawrence Luk.

OMG Homage

DESIGNER ANNA SUI, like us, has been counting the fashion-deprived days until "Gossip Girl" returns for a third, label-lionizing season Monday. That's why her Target collection (in stores and online Sunday), was inspired by the soap's well-heeled, well-dressed teens. Think a haute hippie dress (shown, \$45) that screams Brooklyn hipster Vanessa or a leather bomber à la rocker-chick Jenny (\$150). Still, as with every Target collaboration, we wish the hemlines weren't pre-tween short.

SECONDHAND NOSE

» DIY decorating used to be simpler: Pick a style (modern, shabby chic, country craft), acquire its key accoutrements (chrome accents, weathered finishes, “Little House on the Prairie” gingham), repeat until complete. But now, savvy nesters no longer want to be defined by one design look. Instead, they’re fusing high and low, old and new, classic and oddball, for an effect that’s both chic and cheeky. The trick to this artsy, madcap aesthetic? A healthy collection of vintage pieces, repurposed in unexpected ways (think an old classroom map hung as artwork or laboratory beakers as flower vases). We tagged along with three local experts to learn the secrets of nabbing secondhand scores. **BETSY LOWTHER (EXPRESS)**



[FLEA MARKET]

Treasure Quest

Stu Eli and Janet Morales, Threepotatofourshop.com

» When Janet Morales, above, and Stu Eli decamped from Brooklyn to NoVa a few years ago, they realized the quirky-cool pieces they were collecting for their new house might appeal to other hip homemakers, too. It wasn’t long before their Reston, Va.-based Web store, Threepotatofourshop.com, earned a devoted design following for its mom-and-pop feel and well-sourced selection of eclectic vintage objects (retro letters that once belonged to 1960s-era storefronts, Fiberglas classroom chairs) unearthed at flea markets, antique malls and other troves easily reached via the duo’s minivan.

ABBY GREENAWALT

On a recent Sunday, Eli and Morales unpack two strollers, their two toddlers — Holly, 4, and Otis, 1 — and a few reusable totes to tackle the Georgetown Flea Market (Sun., 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Georgetownflea.market.com). Eli’s eyes quickly dart across the crowded tables. “I start by quickly scanning for anything brightly colored,” he says.

Within minutes, he snags an oversized red Tonka jeep for \$18 (“the bold color and retro shape make it a great display piece on a bookshelf,” he says). Working quickly around the market, they add two wooden lanterns (\$18) and an antique washboard (\$5). “I like that every piece has a story,” Morales says. “This washboard used to clean laundry, but now, it will be hung on someone else’s wall as art.”

BEST ADVICE: “Don’t get discouraged. It only takes one really great booth to make it a good day,” Eli says.



MARGE ELY

[THRIFT STORE]

Discard Style

Amy Rutherford, Red Barn Mercantile

» As the owner of cozy Old Town decor den Red Barn Mercantile (113 S. Columbus St., Alexandria; 703-838-0355), Amy Rutherford has a rep for a mix of hard-to-find new items — Thomas Paul’s vibrant patterned pillows, colorful Fishs Eddy pottery — and nifty secondhand finds, such as salvaged library card catalogs or worn farm pulleys meant to be used as doorstops or bookends. “I hit up any resource I can — thrift stores, flea markets, antique malls, auctions,” Rutherford says while pawing through piles of housewares at Look Again Resale Shop (900 King St., Alexandria; 703-683-2558), a neighborhood thrift store where she regularly stops.

She pauses over a selection of silver serving dishes. “These pieces might be older, but they’re still very classic,” she says. “Stores are making reproductions of them now, but it’s easy to find the originals on the cheap.” Sweet antique teacups (about \$5 each) also catch her eye, though she’d use them as teensy planters. The busy shop overflows with small and big buys. One bummer: An iconic Eero Saarinen marble-topped tulip table (\$995) that dominates the furnishing area wears a “sold” tag.

“In thrift stores, patience is key,” she says. “You’ve got to scour the sections, move things around, look underneath them. That’s where you’ll find your treasure.” She pounces on an antique bank security deposit box (\$9) — “they’re great for storing everything from pencils to papers” — and two retro children’s records whose vibrant, illustrated album covers she plans to reframe as art for a kid’s space.

BEST ADVICE: “Always think outside the box on how to use an item. In fact, don’t even think about what it was made for; think of what it could be instead.”



» Cocktail Flower

Sites like Ebay.com can be great for cheap decor deals, such as six retro glasses for \$20, with shipping.



» Stand and Deliver

The Yellow Pages might seem outdated, but this old phonebook shelf still makes a groovy end table (\$6, Eastern Market flea market).

[CRAIGSLIST.ORG]

Web of Buys

Sally Steponkus,
interior designer

» D.C.-based interiors maven Sally Steponkus (Steponkus.com) doesn't do dirty. "I'm not the kind of person who likes to dig around an antique shop," she says. Instead, she lands her deals the new-fashioned way: via the Internet. On the D.C. portal for classified-ad site Craigslist.org, Steponkus browses for high-quality furnishings and display pieces being sold for little money. It's how she scored the oversized, gilt-bamboo-framed mirror over her couch for just \$25. "I would sell this myself for \$4,000," she says.

Her trick to shopping multi-merchant sites such as Craigslist.org or Ebay.com: Be as specific as possible for what you're looking for. Steponkus favors design-centric search terms such as "bamboo," "antiqued," "gilded" or "Greek key." "Just looking for something like 'lighting' is too vague," she says. "You're going to end up click-

ing through listings of junk. I'd try 'sconce,' 'chandelier' or 'pendant lamp' instead."

Like all secondhand sources, the selection online is hit or miss, so it helps to check often. "No one has the time to stop by a store every day, but it's easy to go online," she says. Persistence helped Steponkus recently score a vintage bamboo dining set — six chairs, table, sideboard and bar — for \$400, which she relacquered for \$3,000 to be spotlighted in a designer showhouse.

BEST ADVICE: "Everything can be redone. A coat of bright paint, new upholstery or adding trim or gilding can dramatically refresh an older piece."

"I LIKE HOMES TO HAVE PIECES THAT ARE OLD. IF EVERYTHING IS BRAND-NEW, IT HAS NO SOUL."

SALLY STEPONKUS



ABBY GREENAWALT

Fine Vintage

» Our experts' tips brought in good buys

» Drawing Stable

The illustrations in old children's books can be reframed to make neat art (\$1, Look Again Resale Shop).



More Ways to Score

Sunday Driver's pamphlet-style directories (free; Sundaydriver.com) are one of Stu Eli's top ways to suss out antique malls and dealers up and down the East Coast.

Red Barn's Amy Rutherford leads shopping expeditions to area antique markets; the next outing is Oct. 10 to the Shenandoah Antique Expo. See Redbarnmercantile.com.

Local decorating blogs — Sally Steponkus frequents Homersoddinthe.blogspot.com and Mynottinghill.blogspot.com — list news on area auctions and store sales.



» Service Points

A David Hicks tray (\$10, Georgetown Flea Market) could corral mail or mags.



» Bite Club

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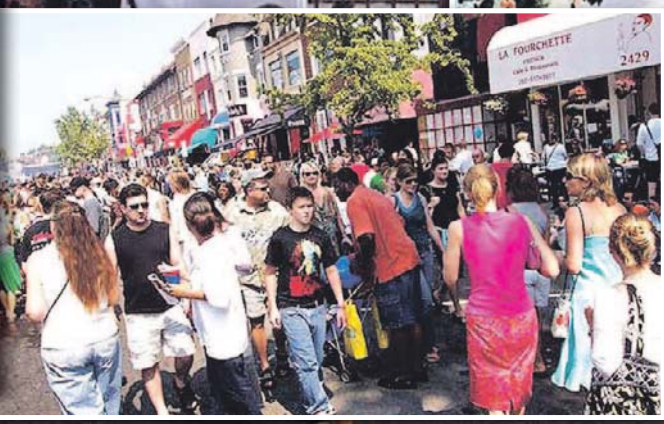
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Chillingly Mediocre

An unbelievable plot and prop flubs make 'Whiteout' almost laughable at times

FILM | It's Kate Beckinsale on Ice.

In the new cold-blooded suspense flick "Whiteout," the actress plays Carrie Stetko, a U.S. Marshal posted at a remote base in Antarctica. Yes, the movies have returned to our southernmost continent: "Whiteout" follows in the webbed footsteps of "March of the Penguins" and Werner Her-

Even amid all that cold, the movie still finds a way to squeeze in a steamy, gratuitous shower scene.

zog, who traveled there for last year's "Encounters at the End of the World."

This time, there's nary a penguin in sight (though even amid all that cold, the movie still finds a way to squeeze in a steamy, gratuitous shower scene).

Laughably, a subtitle informs the audience early on that Antarctica is "the coldest, most isolated land mass." Never mind that the film was actually shot in Canada.

Soon enough, Antarctica has — as one character proclaims — its first murder, which is followed by another, setting off some jurisdictional confusion. Somehow, the United Nations gets involved, immediately dispatching an inves-



HOT HEROINE: Kate Beckinsale may play a U.S. Marshal, but that flawless hair and skin scream movie star loud and clear.

ABOUT THE MOVIE

→ **DIRECTOR:** Dominic Sena

→ **STARS:** Kate Beckinsale, Gabriel Macht, Tom Skerritt

→ **IN A NUTSHELL:** Kate Beckinsale is a U.S. Marshal posted at a remote base in Antarctica. All's going relatively well until murders start taking place. Several over-the-top action scenes later, and you've got yourself the chilliest whodunit ever.

→ **FOR FANS OF:** Murder mysteries, action films and sub-zero temperatures.

tigator (Gabriel Macht).

Stetko and her friend, Doc (Tom Skerritt), are eager to end their stay in Antarctica, but the explosion of violence comes just as winter is about to set in, meaning the last planes are about to leave.

The murders — one victim is found in the middle of nowhere, frozen to the ice — also set off flashbacks for Stetko. As a drug investigator in Miami, she was betrayed by her partner and nearly killed. This has, understandably enough, given her some

trust issues.

There's much that's unbelievable about "Whiteout," but nothing more so than the idea that someone can fight in minus-65-degree cold without anything to cover the face. Also, Stetko's parka looks more fashionable than functional.

But despite such flaws, "Whiteout" succeeds as a half-brained but intriguing whodunit. It's not a fraction of " Fargo," but its solid-enough performances and cool mood give it a noirish pulse.

JAKE COYLE (AP)

nightlife agenda



Ida Maria appears at the 9:30 Club Saturday courtesy of Perez Hilton.

FRIDAY

In the '90s, Osunlade created the Yoruba Records family of artists and remixers, who have given the house world spiritually charged dance floor classics for more than 10 years. The signature Yoruba sound of indigenous percussion, jazzy production and soaring chants have created transcendent experiences out of material from Eric Roberson to Radiohead. Osunlade anchors tonight's edition of Gaia at **GALLERY**, a video, live music and DJ hybrid show also featuring the talents of Nico Laget on reeds, Tamara Wellons on vocals, jazz-hop band Avenue To and many more.

SATURDAY

Yes, sensationalist blogger Perez Hilton is sponsoring Saturday night's concert at the **9:30 CLUB**. In fact, he will even be there in person. So, if somebody doodles some stink lines under your armpit, you'll know who it was. While his presence may scare off some folks, the fact that he got Norwegian sparkplug Ida Maria to perform on his tour means he at least has pretty good taste in music. Her brash, boozy brand of rock 'n' roll is irresistible, especially when that scratchy voice becomes an uncontrollable yelp on songs such as "Oh My God" and "I Like You So Much Better When You're Naked." New Zealand songstress Ladyhawke also performs.

CASTING Singer-Slash-Actor Singer-songwriter Ne-Yo, Ramon Rodriguez, Taylor Handley and Cory Hardrict are suiting up for "Battle: Los Angeles," the sci-fi war picture that Jonathan Liebesman is directing. Jadin Gould, Bryce Cass and Joey King also have joined the cast, which includes Aaron Eckhart, Michelle Rodriguez and Michael Pena. Ne-Yo, who just booked the gig to write and sing the closing song for Disney's "The Princess and the Frog," will play a corporal in the platoon. (THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER)



Check out an extended version of "Nightlife Agenda" each Thursday at washingtonpost.com/gog

[Wings of desire]



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entertainment **lookout**



PETER KRAEMER/GETTY IMAGES

PUT A MOONMAN ON IT: Beyoncé's swaggery "Single Ladies" could wiggle its way to honors at the MTV Video Music Awards.

Lunar Landscape

A breakdown of who could see the biggest bounce from MTV's Video Music Awards

TV | There's nothing like the MTV Video Music Awards to give you a swift kick in the good ol' IQ.

A decadently debaucherous praise-fest of all things MTV, the VMAs are quite possibly the most inexplicably watchable awards show on television, even though all the winners are easy to peg and the performances are usually more about glitz than talent.

But mixed in with the nudity and the bad jokes and the hot messes, there are little Moonmen to be awarded, and this year the nominations list is led by Beyoncé and Lady Gaga, who are tied with nine nominations each.

Who will win? Here are some of our picks. (If you want to find

out who actually won for yourself, tune in Sunday at 9 p.m.)

VIDEO OF THE YEAR

- Winner: Beyoncé, "Single Ladies"
- Other nominees: Lady Gaga, "Poker Face"; Eminem, "We Made You"; Kanye West, "Love Lockdown"; Britney Spears, "Womanizer"

expressnighout

- See who we think should win in two more categories and watch videos from all of our projected VMA winners.

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Beyoncé ruled MTV and the pop charts with "Single Ladies (Put a Ring On It)" this year, commanding praise both from Rolling Stone and from overzealous fans, many of whom inundated YouTube with countless spoof videos of the video's ridiculous dance sequences. For pop-culture pervasiveness alone, Beyoncé takes the crown.

BEST NEW ARTIST

- Winner: Lady Gaga
- Other nominees: 3OH!3, Kid Cudi, Drake, Asher Roth

It's a tough group of competitors — except for 3OH!3, which should probably be blasted into space because it's so awful — but in this category, it's gotta be the Gaga. She's the only artist on this list with a consistent list of singles.

BEST ROCK VIDEO

- Winner: Coldplay, "Viva La Vida"
- Other nominees: Kings of Leon, "Use Somebody"; Green Day, "21 Guns"; Fall Out Boy, "I Don't Care"; Paramore, "Decode"

We might eat our words on this one, but we'll hand it to Chris Martin and co. — "Viva La Vida" was a fantastic single, and while Kings of Leon are blowing up on MTV lately and "Use Somebody" is catchy, it's not necessarily the best song of the year. **ROXANA HADADI**

LOVE INTERESTS Richard, Reincarnate In the sequel to "Sex and the City," Kim Cattrall's Samantha will eye a new hunk in the form of Max Ryan. The English-born actor is stepping into the role of Rikard, a European architect who crosses paths with Samantha. Ryan recently appeared in Paul W.S. Anderson's "Death Race." "Sex and the City" is currently filming in New York City. (THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER)



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FRED STEINBERG
FOUNDER, THE B2G INSTITUTE

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— Richard Furnari, CA

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Judging the Judge

Ellen DeGeneres is excited she's joining 'American Idol,' but fans aren't so sure

TV | Ellen DeGeneres wants to represent the people on "American Idol," but the people are split about the talk show host's role as the Fox singing competition's fourth judge.

Fans took to the Internet after Wednesday's announcement to express either pleasant surprise or total shock that DeGeneres was picked to replace Paula Abdul.

expressnightout

→ Read more reaction from "Idol" mainstays from Seacrest to Sanjaya — and give your take by leaving a comment.

WWW.EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM

"I mean, really? Ellen DeGeneres?" wrote popular "Idol" blogger MJ Santilli at Mjsbigblog.com. "[I]s she going to be a real judge or some kind of joke? She's a comedian, not a singer or a musician."

Others on the Internet, including posters on the AmericanIdol.com forums, said they were pleased that DeGeneres, who admittedly has no formal music experience, just a passion for tunes, would join Simon Cowell, Randy Jackson and Kara DioGuardi on "Idol."

"Hopefully, I'm the people's point of view because I'm just like you," DeGeneres said on her syndicated talk show Thursday. "I'm not looking at it in a critical way from the producer's mind."

DeGeneres' hiring all but seals the departure of Abdul, the original third judge who said she was quitting amid a contract dispute in July. DERRIK J. LANG (AP)



ETHAN WILLER/GETTY IMAGES

MAKE 'EM LAUGH? Some "American Idol" fans are concerned that DeGeneres will bring quips, not useful critiques, to her role as the show's permanent fourth judge.

TWEET EMOTION

Some of "American Idol's" onetime contestants took to Twitter to react to Ellen Degeneres' selection as new permanent judge.



→ **Melinda Doolittle**, season six contestant (pictured): "DUDE!! DUDE!! DUDE!! Ellen DeGeneres the new AI judge! DUDE!! I love me some Paula, and I adore me some Ellen too."



→ **Alex Wagner-Trugman**, season eight contestant: "Wasn't four judges the problem last year? Who knows, maybe they've figured out the science of fitting six two-minute songs in a one-hour slot."



→ **Chris Richardson**, season six contestant: "@TheEllenShow Wow!! Can't wait... Congrats on A.I. love."



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WINNERS Twist of Fate "State of Play," a theatrical underperformer (\$37 million) with an all-star cast headed by Russell Crowe and Ben Affleck, topped the national sales and rentals its first week in stores. The thriller, about the investigation into the murder of a Congressman's mistress, debuted at No. 1 on sales charts last week. (THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER)





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lookout entertainment



WELL-VERSED: Robin Williams stars as a poetry teacher in "World's Greatest Dad."

Now Playing

ADAM (PG-13, 97 minutes) Beth (Rose Byrne) just out of a disastrous relationship, has moved into a new apartment, and she's interested in the cute guy on the second floor (Hugh Dancy). Adam has Asperger's syndrome, which renders him unable to empathize or to understand what other people are feeling. At its best, the film makes the viewer understand the frustration of living in a world in which everyone is a stranger. (DK)

ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13, 97 minutes) There are few things more cinematically satisfying than Sandra Bullock in her wheelhouse. But it's singularly excruciating to watch as she contorts herself into a role that's all wrong for her. This gruesome, almost perversely un-funny movie about a crossword puzzle constructor who obsessively follows a man across the country may get an asterisk on Bullock's résumé as the most misguided move of her career. Bullock's Mary Magdalene Horowitz chases a news cameraman named Steve (Bradley Cooper), who she nearly mauls on a blind date before they even pull away from the curb. Bullock lisps and quips her way through a movie that is by turns cruel and unusual, culminating in a tortured critique of contemporary media

and conformism. Thomas Haden Church provides a few laughs as a vain newscaster, but buying Bullock as a hapless nerd is simply asking too much. (AH)

DISTRICT 9 (R, 112 minutes) The poison that permeates this phenomenal film is the same toxin that defined so much of 20th-century history: the oppression of the Other — in this case, scaly aliens with feelers for faces, a jones for canned cat food and a mother ship that has been hovering over Johannesburg for 20 years. The underlying gravitas of the story, in which aliens are warehoused in camps and used for gruesome experiments, keeps director Neill Blomkamp's film smart, even as the aliens are turning their pursuers into Heinz 57 Sauce. As the craven corporate tool Wikus van de Merwe, acting newcomer Sharlto Copley is nothing short of revelatory. Wikus is assigned to move the aliens from their ramshackle township to tent cities that are, in fact, concentration camps. The aliens are hard to like, but we like them, just as we end up liking Wikus and rooting for the demise of Greater Human Civilization. (JA)

EXTRACT (R, 91 minutes) Jason Bateman, Kristen Wiig, Mila Kunis, David Koechner, Ben Affleck and their abuser — writer-director Mike Judge, creator of "Office Space" and TV's "King of the Hill" — have violated the trust of their respective fan bases by participating in what may be the most disappointing American comedy of the decade. Bateman is the owner of a food-flavoring factory in a nondescript

entertainment **lookout**

suburb of gated communities and hotel bars. His traitless wife (Wiig) won't have sex with him. His best friend is a scuzzy, pill-popping bartender played by Affleck. It's too timid to be black comedy, too inert to be slapstick, too unfocused and dull to be a takedown of the suburbs or of married life. As it is, it's a major step back for all involved. Don't see this movie. (DZ)

(500) DAYS OF SUMMER (PG-13, 95 minutes) This romance understands that we mark our lives by our scrapes and defeats with love rather than by the white wedding-cake successes. It's a drama that, at first blush, would seem excruciatingly ordinary: the 500-day affair between Tom, who believes wholeheartedly in love,

and Summer, who isn't sure about love at all. What makes us connect is Tom's funny, morose and ironic commentary as he does his damndest to reach the heart of a woman whose idea of lover and friend is, well, confusing. (DT)

THE FINAL DESTINATION (R, 82 minutes) In the latest unoriginal, exhausted sequel, these movies have been reduced to bland killing machines, though this one features aggressive use of 3-D, with everything from race cars, tires and engines to nails from a nail gun, entrails and blood blasting off the screen into our laps. Blandly acted by players who seem resigned to the paycheck rather than terrified by the prospect of death or paralyzed by fear or

even morbidly fascinated by their impending doom, this one is certainly worth a pass. Of the blasé cast, only Mykelti Williamson, as a security guard who accepts his fate with the help of his faith, and Nick Zano, playing a rude, crude and funny frat-boy jerk, stand out. It's not frightening in the least, with only a few amusing moments, a pedal-and-forehead-to-the-metal race-track race track crash opener, and then you just keep time by counting off who survives the initial slaughter, and who awaits death when "their turn" comes.

ORLANDO SENTINEL

FUNNY PEOPLE (R, 145 minutes) As the film opens, comic superstar George Simmons (Adam Sandler) gets the news

that he is suffering from a probably fatal form of leukemia. Meanwhile, Ira Wright (Seth Rogen) works the unpaid L.A. comedy club circuit by night. George catches Ira's act and asks him to be his writing assistant and, it turns out, one-man entourage. Writer-director Judd Apatow's alert, crude and compassionate film takes digressive, thoroughly unexpected turns as George takes stock of his life. (AH)

GAMER (R, 95 minutes) Gerard Butler plays a convict trapped in a "real life" video game in which the players shoot their way through levels until they're killed. Or they make it through 30 "missions" and are freed. Butler puts his game face on, playing a man unjustly convicted of murder, deter-

mined to escape his doom in this weekly worldwide telecast of the game *Slayers*, where he is the heroic "first person shooter" named Kable. His real name is Tilman. Tilman needs to survive, but he's trapped in the "moves" made by a famous and soul-deadened teen gamer (Logan Lerman) with a knack for pulling the game trigger faster than his competitors. There's very little room for acting (Butler is merely a presence here) or emotions or anything of real interest. When you set your sights on mimicking and commenting on a first-person-shooter game where the body count and the score are all you're really interested in, you've set your sights too

Continued on page 46

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"OFFICE SPACE 2": Ben Affleck and Jason Bateman star in Mike Judge's "Extract."

NowPlaying

Continued from page 45

LOW. ORLANDO SENTINEL

G.I. JOE (PG-13, 118 minutes) Stephen Sommers' film is the loudest, flashiest, silliest and longest blockbuster in a summer full of long, silly, flashy, loud blockbusters. As far as plot goes, the crack commando team of G.I. Joes encounter an evil weapons dealer, a mad scientist, nanobots with a taste for 19th-century Parisian landmarks, a funny black guy, a couple of unconvincing romances and a girl who's been brainwashed into becoming a lethal killing machine. (DK)

HALLOWEEN II (R, 101 minutes) Writer-director Rob Zombie's retooling of John Carpenter's 1981 film delivers that old slasher magic, replete with graphic gore unseen in the earlier movies. The old formula applies: We find quailless, stabby serial killer Michael Myers alive (again) and on the loose (again) and willing to kill any baby sitter, beast or pedestrian he encounters in Haddonfield, Ill., on Halloween night. Generally, he stabs people. Throughout, Zombie introduces some Michael (Tyler Mane) backstory and far more blood than Carpenter could have dreamed of. Some films might be said to be mountain-shaped, escalating to a peak before descending. Zombie's is more like a vast plateau — a plateau strewn with shards of glass. Which is to say that it's very effective at scaring the flipping flip out of you. RUTH MCCANN

HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE (PG, 153 minutes) Love potions, common-room snogging, adolescent heartbreak. It's hard to blame the film's

screenwriter, Steve Kloves, or director, David Yates, for focusing on the romance. After all, as young-adult adventures go, the sixth book in the "Harry Potter" series is awfully light on the adventure. (DK)

THE HURT LOCKER (R, 130 minutes) Kathryn Bigelow's captivating, completely immersive action thriller is set in Iraq in 2004, but it transcends time and place, and in the process attains something universal and enduring. Viewers are plunged into the disorienting world of the soldiers who disarm what Americans have come to know as IEDs, or roadside bombs, neither of which does full justice to the carnage they inflict. (AH)

INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS (R, 151 minutes) Quentin Tarantino manages to simultaneously surprise and revert to form in this film. The surprise lies in his choice of period and subject matter. Set in France during World War II, the film tells the fictionalized story of a special squad of American Jews whose mission to kill and capture German soldiers was uniquely practical and symbolic. But from the admittedly breathtaking opening sequence, the film isn't about history or war — it's a movie about other movies. Brad Pitt stars as Lt. Aldo Raine, who early in the movie is shown assembling a group of Jewish soldiers whose mission is to do "one thing and one thing only: to kill Nazis." Pitt's character ends his speech by announcing that he's part Apache and as such will insist that each of his men — the titular IBs — owes him "one hunnert Nattzie scalps." Because it's Tarantino, viewers can rest assured that we'll see those scalps being taken. If only the Allies had Tarantino on their side, he could have made Hitler's head explode. (AH)

IT MIGHT GET LOUD (PG, 97 minutes)

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Jimmy Page, the Edge and Jack White, three of the more influential guitarists of several generations, start a little fire-by-fret during director Davis Guggenheim's film, which depicts wood, lacquer and hardware the way Hugh Hefner depicts Miss September. The documentary was conceived as a tribute to the electric guitarist, easily the most important musical development of the rock era, maybe even the 20th century. The principals here, however — the elegant Page, the modest Edge and the cocky White — are strictly hands-on in achieving a singular sound that is, amid the clangor of mainstream musical traffic, distinctive and personal. Guggenheim, who won an Oscar for "An Inconvenient Truth," makes all this guitar/guitarist worship both cinematic and delicious. One needn't have a Stratocaster moldering in the closet at home to get a kick out of this film full of personality and charm and a charisma level that's set at around 11. (JA)

JULIE AND JULIA (PG, 118 minutes) Two movies battle for pride of place in Nora Ephron's adaptation of memoirs by blogger Julie Powell and culinary legend Julia Child. Either way, Powell's whiny, sad-sack self-absorption is no match for Child's spirit, strength of character and joie de vivre, a fact made painfully clear in a movie that soars whenever Child (Meryl Streep) is on the screen and sags when Powell shows up. (AH)

MY ONE AND ONLY (PG-13, 109 minutes) Call it a coming-of-rage summer saga, but without any sizzle. Set in the 1950s, it chronicles the cross-country trip taken by Upper West Sider Anne Deveraux (Renée Zellweger) when she finally leaves her womanizing, band-leader husband (Kevin Bacon) and takes her two teenage sons with her. She buys a Caddy and off they go, from city to city, seeking a new husband and daddy. Sons George (Logan Lerman) and Robbie (Mark Rendall) watch with eye-rolling dismay as Anne works her way through a collection of old flames and new prospects. Most turn out to be bums, heels, users or psychos. As George, the central character and narrator of the story, Lerman has the most believable presence in the picture. But he has to work with Rendall's one-note turn as his quippy gay brother, and Zellweger's off-note performance as a sort of Blanche DuBois of Manhattan. (DT)

TAKING WOODSTOCK (R, 110 minutes) As Ang Lee's coming-of-age comedy set during 1969 opens, Elliot (Demetri Martin) is living

with his elderly parents at their Catskills El Monaco Motel, which is on the brink of being taken over by the bank. A quiet, dutiful son, he cooks up ways to make something of the decrepit fleabag. When Elliot hears that a three-day music festival has had its permit denied by a nearby town, he contacts the promoter and makes the introduction to a farmer whose green, hilly property is deemed ideal for the event. The

film steadfastly remains outside the main event and its familiar muddy scrum of hippies and hangers-on. Instead, Lee stays with the relatively straight-laced Elliot as he watches the world change outside his window. This quirky, self-effacing little comedy takes its place in Lee's American oeuvre with quiet ease. (AH)

PONYO (G, 100 minutes) You might think
Continued on page 48

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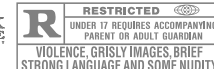
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NowPlaying

Continued from page 47

Japanese director Hayao Miyazaki's new animated film is the anti-"Up." That recent Disney/Pixar smash was about the joys of soaring into the clouds; "Ponyo" makes its home in the sea. What do the two movies

have in common, besides a Disney logo? They're both masterpieces. Ponyo, a magical goldfish (voiced by Noah Cyrus, sister of Miley), is the daughter of Fujimoto (Liam Neeson), a god of the sea. On a trip to the surface, Ponyo encounters 5-year-old Sosuke (Frankie Jonas, younger brother of the musical Jonases), who is bereft when Fujimoto snatches his daughter back. When a determined Ponyo returns

to Sosuke, waves inundate Sosuke's entire island. It isn't Miyazaki's greatest film, but this beautiful, quirky fable is a labor of love. (DK)

THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE (PG-13, 107 minutes) In German director Robert Schwentke's adaptation of Audrey Niffenegger's novel, the lovely Rachel McAdams, as Clare, returns to the genre of her most-beloved movie, "The Notebook."

Here, her true love, Henry (Eric Bana), is afflicted by a "rare" (i.e., ridiculous) genetic abnormality that causes him to abruptly leave the present tense for eras unknown, returning who knows when and in what kind of shape. It's the kind of mutant disorder that makes a committed relationship an impossibility: Tell him to take out the garbage and he ends up in the '60s. (JA)

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10:05, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15
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GAMER (R)
12:20, 2:30, 4:50, 7:30, 9:45
ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13)
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4:20, 9:40 PM
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11:50, 2:25, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40
JULIE & JULIA (PG-13)
11:25, 2:15, 4:55, 7:35, 10:15
GAMER (R)
11:45, 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45
INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS (R)
12:00, 3:10, 6:20, 9:35
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FOCUS FEATURES PRESENTS AN ASSOCIATION WITH RELATIVITY MEDIA A JIM LEALEY, TIM BURTON, TIMUR BEKMAMBETOV PRODUCTION "9" ELIJAH WOOD, JOHN C. REILLY, JENNIFER CONNELLY, CHRISTOPHER PLUMMER, CRISPIN GLOVER, MARTIN LANDAU, FRED TATASCOFF, "9" DANNY ELFMAN AND DEBORAH LUKE
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JIM LEALEY, TIM BURTON, TIMUR BEKMAMBETOV, DANA RINSBURG
"9" SHANE ACKER
CREATED BY PAMELA PETTLER
"9" SHANE ACKER
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express

A publication of The Washington Post



MICHAEL OCHS ARCHIVES/GETTY IMAGES

Fear and Lager In Frederick

It's possible that when you think of mind-altering substances as they relate to Hunter S. Thompson, you're not thinking of beer. Well, that's about to change, friend. Enter GonzoFest, the Flying Dog Brewery's annual celebration of Thompson's life and work. If you dress up as the famed journalist, you can enter the costume contest; beer and chili are open to all. As the Man would say: "Oh, Jesus, here we go again." f.z.

→ Flying Dog Brewery, 4607 Wedgewood Blvd., Frederick, Md.; Sat., 3 p.m.-9 p.m., \$30, \$20 in advance; 301-694-7899.

top stops

Compiled by Express' Karmah Elmusa and Fiona Zublin. Read more of their picks every day at Expressnightout.com/topstops.



LUCIAN PERKINS/TWP

The Physics Of Awesome

The dance party you shouldn't miss this weekend is (as usual) at the Black Cat. It's called Vibrating Particles, and, ostensibly in this scenario, we, the dancers, are meant to be the particles. So, get vibrating! Well, not just yet — Friday night. Calm down. Jeez. DJ Dignificant Worm and Kid Congo Powers will provide the music to shake by. f.z.

→ Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW; Fri., 9:30 p.m., \$7; 202-667-4490, Blackcatdc.com. (U St.-Cardozo)

Last Chance to Laze

That's it — summer is unofficially over. Jazz in the Garden has its last hurrah of 2009 this weekend. You've been saying you'd go all summer, but then you forgot, or it rained, or you got a better offer. And once again you missed one of D.C.'s gentlest, best traditions: a summer evening with friends, decent background music, sangria and great art. Robert Redd and the U.S. Navy Commodores will provide tonight's music. f.z.

→ National Gallery of Art, 6th Street & Constitution Avenue NW; Fri., 5 p.m., free; 202-842-6799, Nga.gov.

REGAL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP
ROCKVILLE CENTER STADIUM 13
Rockville Town Center 800-FANDANGO 248#
TYLER PERRY'S: I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13)
(1240 140 330 430) 630 730 930 1020 1210
WHITEOUT (R) - ID REQ'D (1250 350) 710 950 1200
SORORITY ROW (R) - ID REQ'D (1200 230 500) 800 1035
9 (PG-13) (1200 210 420) 650 900 1110
ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (1230 PM)
OC & DA: ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (1230 PM)
EXTRACT (R) - ID REQ'D (150 450) 750 1010
THE GAMER (R) - ID REQ'D (100 400) 720 1000
FINAL DESTINATION: DEATH TRIP 3D - EVENT PRICING (R) - ID REQ'D ★
(1200 200 410) 620 830 1045
INGLORIOUS BASTERDS (R) - ID REQ'D (1220 340) 700 1030
DISTRICT 9 (R) - ID REQ'D (1200 440) 740 1025
JULIE & JULIA (PG-13) (1210 510) 610 910
500 DAYS OF SUMMER (PG-13) (1215 300) 600 820 1040
THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE (PG-13) 1145 PM
GERMANTOWN STADIUM 14
20000 Century Blvd 800-FANDANGO 455#
WHITEOUT (R) - ID REQ'D (145 430) 710 1015
SORORITY ROW (R) - ID REQ'D (120 410) 720 945
TYLER PERRY'S: I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13)
(100 200 400 500) 700 800 1000 1045
9 (PG-13) (210 430) 730 1010
OC & DA: ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (130 PM)
EXTRACT (R) - ID REQ'D (215 510) 745 1020
THE GAMER (R) - ID REQ'D (200 445) 730 1010
ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (415 PM) 715 PM 1000 PM
HALLOWEEN 2 (R) - ID REQ'D 930 PM
FINAL DESTINATION: DEATH TRIP 3D - EVENT PRICING (R) - ID REQ'D ★
(220 520) 820 1040
INGLORIOUS BASTERDS (R) - ID REQ'D (140 PM 450 PM) 815 PM
THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE (PG-13) (115 PM 350 PM) 700 PM
DISTRICT 9 (R) - ID REQ'D (150 450) 740 1020
JULIE & JULIA (PG-13) (110 400) 650 950
G.I. JOE (PG-13) (140 440) 750 1045
UA SNOWDEN SQ STADIUM 14
9151 Commerce Ctr Dr 800-FANDANGO 570#
WHITEOUT (R) - ID REQ'D (145 445) 730 1005
SORORITY ROW (R) - ID REQ'D (230 515) 800 1025
TYLER PERRY'S: I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13)
(115 215 400 500) 645 745 930 1030
9 (PG-13) (100 300 510) 715 915
OC & DA: ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (220 PM)
EXTRACT (R) - ID REQ'D (110 330 545) 820 1035
THE GAMER (R) - ID REQ'D (200 445) 750 1015
ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (520 PM) 805 PM 1020 PM
TAKING WOODSTOCK (R) - ID REQ'D (415 PM) 800 PM
FINAL DESTINATION: DEATH TRIP 3D - EVENT PRICING (R) - ID REQ'D ★
(120 325 535) 740 1010
INGLORIOUS BASTERDS (R) - ID REQ'D (125 PM 440 PM) 815 PM
PONYO (G) (1255 PM)
THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE (PG-13) (130 PM) 700 PM
DISTRICT 9 (R) - ID REQ'D (135 420) 720 1000
JULIE & JULIA (PG-13) (105 405) 650 935
G.I. JOE (PG-13) (110 315 355 PM) 705 PM 950 PM

MAJESTIC STADIUM 20
900 Ellsworth Dr Silver Spring, MD 240-393-4826
TYLER PERRY'S: I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF - DP (PG-13)
(1110 150 430) 710 950
1255 125 225 305 330 355 500 540) 605 635 740 815 845 915 1020 1050 1220
RW: SORORITY ROW (R) - ID REQ'D (1215 255 525) 810 1035
WHITEOUT (R) - ID REQ'D (1130 215 450) 715 940
9 (PG-13) (110 335 550) 750 945
ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (1225 250 510) 745 1005
EXTRACT (R) - ID REQ'D (1125 330 340) 615 830 1040
THE GAMER (R) - ID REQ'D (100 320 535) 800 1030
TAKING WOODSTOCK (R) - ID REQ'D (1155 245 530) 820 1100
HALLOWEEN 2 (R) - ID REQ'D (1250 325 555) 825 1055
FINAL DESTINATION: DEATH TRIP 3D - EVENT PRICING (R) - ID REQ'D ★
(1235 235 440) 645 850 1105
SHORTS (PG) (1245 PM 310 PM 545 PM)
INGLORIOUS BASTERDS (R) - ID REQ'D (1220 345) 655 1015
PONYO (G) (1105 120 300) 650 925 PM
THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE (PG-13) (1150 220 455) 730 1000
DISTRICT 9 (R) - ID REQ'D (115 400) 700 955
G.I. JOE (PG-13) (105 420) 735 1045
HARRY POTTER: HALF BLOOD PRINCE (PG) 805 PM 1025 PM
HANGOVER (R) - ID REQ'D
ROYALE STADIUM 14
6505 America Blvd Hyattsville, MD 301-864-3456
TYLER PERRY'S: I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13)
(100 130 200 335 405 435) 645 715 745 930 1000 1030
RW: WHITEOUT (R) - ID REQ'D (115 345) 700 945
SORORITY ROW (R) - ID REQ'D (205 440) 735 1020
9 (PG-13) (145 410) 705 915
ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (120 340) 640 920
EXTRACT (R) - ID REQ'D (135 400) 710 925
THE GAMER (R) - ID REQ'D (125 355) 655 940
HALLOWEEN 2 (R) - ID REQ'D (155 425) 730 1005
FINAL DESTINATION: DEATH TRIP (R) - ID REQ'D (150 415) 720 950
INGLORIOUS BASTERDS (R) - ID REQ'D (110 PM 430 PM) 750 PM
DISTRICT 9 (R) - ID REQ'D (140 420) 735 1015
JULIE & JULIA (PG-13) (105 350) 650 935
G.I. JOE (PG-13)
BETHESDA 10
1717 Wisconsin Avenue 800-FANDANGO 555#
WHITEOUT (R) - ID REQ'D (100 315 530) 750 1010
TYLER PERRY'S: I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13) (110 420) 700 940
THE GAMER (R) - ID REQ'D (100 320 540) 800 1020
ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (120 400) 720 950
FINAL DESTINATION: DEATH TRIP (R) - ID REQ'D (210 PM)
THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE (PG-13) (410 PM) 650 PM 920 PM
DISTRICT 9 (R) - ID REQ'D (220 450) 730 1005
JULIE & JULIA (PG-13) (145 430) 715 1000
G.I. JOE (PG-13) (130 440) 740 1020
HARRY POTTER: HALF BLOOD PRINCE (PG) (200 PM 515 PM) 830 PM
HANGOVER (R) - ID REQ'D (230 450) 710 930
BOWIE STADIUM 14
15200 Major Lansdale Blvd 800-FANDANGO 454#
TYLER PERRY'S: I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13) (1100)
1200 1245 115 145 245 330 400 430 530) 615 645 715 815 900 930 1000 1100
WHITEOUT (R) - ID REQ'D (1135 210 445) 735 1005
SORORITY ROW (R) - ID REQ'D (1230 305 540) 805 1045
9 (PG-13) (1120 125 325 530) 730 945
THE GAMER (R) - ID REQ'D (100 320 535) 755 1015
ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (1155 235 455) 720 950
HALLOWEEN 2 (R) - ID REQ'D (220 450) 750 1020
FINAL DESTINATION: DEATH TRIP 3D - EVENT PRICING (R) - ID REQ'D ★
(1100 120 345) 600 810 1040
SHORTS (PG) (1145 AM)
INGLORIOUS BASTERDS (R) - ID REQ'D (1140 315) 645 955
DISTRICT 9 (R) - ID REQ'D (1130 215 500) 745 1030
G.I. JOE (PG-13) (1130 215 500) 745 1030

GALLERY PLACE STADIUM 14
701 Seventh St NW 800-FANDANGO 1721#
TYLER PERRY'S: I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13)
(1210 1250) 315 400 615 700 915 1000 1240
WHITEOUT (R) - ID REQ'D (1205 240) 510 745 1020 1245
SORORITY ROW (R) - ID REQ'D (1200 230) 500 730 1010 1235
9 (PG-13) (1150 200) 420 710 930 1130
OC & DA: ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (1235 PM)
TUNNY PEOPLE (R) - ID REQ'D (NR) (1145 220) 445 720 950
EXTRACT (R) - ID REQ'D (1230 250) 320 750 1005 1220
THE GAMER (R) - ID REQ'D (1220 245) 535 800 1035
ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) 310 540 815 1040
HALLOWEEN 2 (R) - ID REQ'D (1140 AM)
FINAL DESTINATION: DEATH TRIP 3D - EVENT PRICING (R) - ID REQ'D ★
(1240 300 510) 735 1015 1225
INGLORIOUS BASTERDS (R) - ID REQ'D (1215) 345 705 1030
THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE (PG-13) 1215 AM
DISTRICT 9 (R) - ID REQ'D (150) 530 810 1045
JULIE & JULIA (PG-13) (100) 355 645 940 1230
G.I. JOE (PG-13) 1210 AM
500 DAYS OF SUMMER (PG-13) (210) 430 655 920 1150
BALLSTON COMMON STADIUM 12
671 N Glebe Rd 800-FANDANGO 377#
TYLER PERRY'S: I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13) (200 450) 740 1030
9 (PG-13) (1240 250 500) 710 930
EXTRACT (R) - ID REQ'D (1235 255 520) 810 1035
FINAL DESTINATION: DEATH TRIP 3D - EVENT PRICING (R) - ID REQ'D ★
(1230 210 330) 750 1010
SHORTS (PG) (150 415) 640 905
DISTRICT 9 (R) - ID REQ'D (110 210 405 505) 700 800 950
JULIE & JULIA (PG-13) (1220 120 320 420) 620 720 920 1020
THE GAMER (R) - ID REQ'D (1255 PM 425 PM) 745 PM
HARRY POTTER: HALF BLOOD PRINCE (PG) (1230 PM 400 PM) 730 PM
THE PROPOSAL (PG-13) (100 350) 650 940
POTOMAC YARD STADIUM 16
3575 Jefferson Davis Hwy 800-FANDANGO 690#
TYLER PERRY'S: I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13)
(1110 1140) 100 130 200
RW: SORORITY ROW (R) - ID REQ'D (1235 300 530) 810 1035
WHITEOUT (R) - ID REQ'D (150 440) 730 1020
EXTRACT (R) - ID REQ'D (1140 220 510) 750 1040
OC & DA: ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (1200 210 445) 700 915 1140
THE GAMER (R) - ID REQ'D (1115 140 405) 630 1145
ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (1145 235 515) 755 1035
HALLOWEEN 2 (R) - ID REQ'D (345 PM) 620 PM 850 PM
FINAL DESTINATION: DEATH TRIP 3D - EVENT PRICING (R) - ID REQ'D ★
(1210 250 540) 830 1110
INGLORIOUS BASTERDS (R) - ID REQ'D (1220 240 500) 720 940 1200
THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE (PG-13) (1250 430) 800 1130
DISTRICT 9 (R) - ID REQ'D (1135 225 530) 820 1115
JULIE & JULIA (PG-13) (1240 340) 650 950
G.I. JOE (PG-13) (1230 PM)
KINGSTOWNE STADIUM 16
5910 Kingstowne Towne Center 703-822-4956
TYLER PERRY'S: I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13)
(1200 1230 100 235 315 345 430 515) 600 630 715 800 845 915 1000 1035
RW: SORORITY ROW (R) - ID REQ'D (1235 300 530) 810 1035
WHITEOUT (R) - ID REQ'D (1215 240 505) 745 1020
9 (PG-13) (1210 215 420) 650 900
ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (1205 225 450) 710 935
EXTRACT (R) - ID REQ'D (1220 245 500) 730 1015
THE GAMER (R) - ID REQ'D (1225 250) 510 740 1010
HALLOWEEN 2 (R) - ID REQ'D (930 PM)
FINAL DESTINATION: DEATH TRIP 3D - EVENT PRICING (R) - ID REQ'D ★
(1255 305 525) 735 940
SHORTS (PG) (1100 PM 340 PM)
INGLORIOUS BASTERDS (R) - ID REQ'D (1200 320) 835 950
THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE (PG-13) 620 PM 855 PM
DISTRICT 9 (R) - ID REQ'D (120 400) 705 955
JULIE & JULIA (PG-13) (115 405) 655 945
G.I. JOE (PG-13) (1250 PM 330 PM) 640 PM
G-FORCE (PG) (1155 AM 205 PM)

COUNTRYSIDE STADIUM 20
45980 Regal Plaza 800-FANDANGO 394#
TYLER PERRY'S: I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13)
(1240 145 330 430) 615 720 900 1005
WHITEOUT (R) - ID REQ'D (1210 240 515) 750 1025
SORORITY ROW (R) - ID REQ'D (130 415) 700 935
9 (PG-13) (1245 305 525) 740 955
OC & DA: ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (1205 PM)
EXTRACT (R) - ID REQ'D (1230 300 530) 755 1030
THE GAMER (R) - ID REQ'D (1220 250) 610 840
ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (235 500) 730 1000
HALLOWEEN 2 (R) - ID REQ'D (150 450) 735 1015
FINAL DESTINATION: DEATH TRIP 3D - EVENT PRICING (R) - ID REQ'D ★
(100 320 540) 600 1020
SHORTS (PG) (105 340) 625 850
INGLORIOUS BASTERDS (R) - ID REQ'D (1200 315) 630 945
PONYO (G) (125 400) 645 920
THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE (PG-13) (140 420) 710 950
DISTRICT 9 (R) - ID REQ'D (155 440) 725 1010
JULIE & JULIA (PG-13) (1225 325) 620 915
G.I. JOE (PG-13) (1250 345) 635 925
500 DAYS OF SUMMER (PG-13) (120 405) 640 910
HARRY POTTER: HALF BLOOD PRINCE (PG) (1200 315) 630 945
THE PROPOSAL (PG-13) (110 350) 650 930
FOX STADIUM 16
22875 Crawford Pkz Ashburn, VA 703-957-1035
TYLER PERRY'S: I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13) (150 440) 730 1010
WHITEOUT (R) - ID REQ'D (150 430) 730 1010
SORORITY ROW (R) - ID REQ'D (230 510) 750 1020
9 (PG-13) (100 300 500) 720 940
EXTRACT (R) - ID REQ'D (120 340 550) 820 1030
THE GAMER (R) - ID REQ'D (250 540) 810 1025
RW & DA: ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (220 450) 710 950
HALLOWEEN 2 (R) - ID REQ'D 930 PM
FINAL DESTINATION: DEATH TRIP 3D - EVENT PRICING (R) - ID REQ'D ★
(110 320 530) 740 1000
SHORTS (PG) (120 420) 630 840
INGLORIOUS BASTERDS (R) - ID REQ'D (1230 345) 700 1015
PONYO (G) (1245 315) 600 830
THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE (PG-13) (130 410) 645 915
DISTRICT 9 (R) - ID REQ'D (1235 310) 610 850
JULIE & JULIA (PG-13) (1240 330) 615 900
G.I. JOE (PG-13) (1250 440) 640 920
G-FORCE (PG-13) (210 PM 430 PM) 650 PM
FAIRFAX TOWNE CENTER 10
4110 W Ox Road 800-FANDANGO 670#
TYLER PERRY'S: I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13)
(115 315 525) 735 1000
SORORITY ROW (R) - ID REQ'D (200 440) 750 1015
9 (PG-13) (130 410) 720 1005
EXTRACT (R) - ID REQ'D (140 435) 710 945
THE GAMER (R) - ID REQ'D (100 310 520) 740 1000
ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (110 355) 650 940
HALLOWEEN 2 (R) - ID REQ'D (145 420 655 930)
500 DAYS OF SUMMER (PG-13) (120 400) 700 920
HARRY POTTER: HALF BLOOD PRINCE (PG) (105 PM 425 PM) 800 PM
MANASSAS STADIUM 14
11380 Bulloch Drive 800-FANDANGO 490#
WHITEOUT (R) - ID REQ'D (1100 130 400) 700 945
SORORITY ROW (R) - ID REQ'D (1145 230 515) 800 1045
TYLER PERRY'S: I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF (PG-13)
(1025 1125 100 200 345 445) 630 730 915 1015
9 (PG-13) (1000 1215 300) 600 830 1030
EXTRACT (R) - ID REQ'D (1115 415) 650 910
THE GAMER (R) - ID REQ'D (1015 1245 330) 615 900
ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) (1200 240 530) 745 1010
HALLOWEEN 2 (R) - ID REQ'D 815 PM 1040 PM
FINAL DESTINATION: DEATH TRIP 3D - EVENT PRICING (R) - ID REQ'D ★
(1115 145 440) 715 930
SHORTS (PG) (1130 AM 215 PM) 630 PM
INGLORIOUS BASTERDS (R) - ID REQ'D (1140 315) 645 950
THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE (PG-13) 950 PM
DISTRICT 9 (R) - ID REQ'D (1210 250 545) 845
JULIE & JULIA (PG-13) (120 410) 720 1020
G.I. JOE (PG-13) (1230 PM 350 PM) 710 PM

television **lookout**

Time to Get Over 'The Hill'

FAREWELL | "King of the Hill" (8 and 8:30 p.m., Fox, Sun.) gets an hour-long chance to say "adios" to its faithful audience. It's fitting that both installments focus on the central relationship between the lovable square Hank Hill and his eccentric adolescent son, Bobby.

In the first, Bobby is adopted by a crew of older girls and does not realize that they see him as a kind of adorable pet. In the second, Bobby finally makes Hank proud by competing in a state championship that gives both a chance to bond over their common love of meat. The series ends on a great note, with its theme song reworked as an epic Western score.

For years, "King" stood out as one of the few comedies not set in



Bobby, Peggy and Hank Hill take their final bow this Sunday night at 8:30.

New York or Los Angeles. It was the first show to reflect the impact of mega-retailers on a small-town economy. And then there is Peggy Hill, a fully realized mother character with more than her share of eccentric tastes, including a love of Boggle and the music of Chuck Mangione. The characters on "King" were drawn with affection. They will be missed. KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

weekend lineup

A DAY TO REMEMBER

HOTEL GROUND ZERO (10 p.m., History, Fri.) discovers some untold stories from Sept. 11, 2001.

INTERVIEW WITH THE SISTER

La Toya Jackson will sit down with Barbara Walters on the season premiere of **20/20** (10 p.m., ABC, Fri.) to discuss her late brother, his death, his children and their family.

GLORIOUS RETURN!

Ally Sheedy, forever associated with the Brat Pack films of the 1980s, returns to the small screen in **CITIZEN JANE** (9 p.m., Hallmark, Sat.).

CHIVALROUS SORT

Robin (Keith Allen) seethes and sets his sights on Marian's murderer as **ROBIN HOOD** (9 p.m., BBC America, Sat.) enters its third season.

THE OTHER SISTER

A constellation of music stars appear at the **2009 MTV VIDEO MUSIC AWARDS** (9 p.m., MTV, Sun.), including Janet Jackson, who will pay tribute to her late brother.



La Toya Jackson will talk with Barbara Walters on "20/20" Friday at 10 p.m.

HOW NAUGHTY

Sally acts out at school on **MAD MEN** (10 p.m., AMC, Sun.).

UNSTABLE LINE OF WORK

Ray faces career crises on the season finale of **HUNG** (10 p.m., HBO, Sun.).

BEST DRAPES EVER!

A winner emerges on the final episode of **DESIGN STAR** (10 p.m., HGTV, Sun.). KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

Cavalía

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The New York Times



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Poll Center

CAN PRESIDENT OBAMA WIN OVER CRITICS OF HIS HEALTH CARE REFORM PLAN?

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS AS OF 5 P.M.

NO 68%
YES 32%

“Based on the outbursts of the critics, and town hall meetings, I cannot see that happening. My advice would be to count votes, bank on the support, and lobby the middle until the requisite number of votes is reached.”

COMMENTER VETERAN

“People are just too close-minded and set in their ways to be convinced of anything, even if it is completely rational and beneficial to the country.”

COMMENTER S.S.

“No, but he doesn’t have to. He only needs to secure his supporters and calm the independents.”

COMMENTER DEFENSE LIB

SEE HOW YOUR METRO STATION VOTED
WWW.EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM

Blog LOG

“IT SEEMS appropriate that the day after news that NASA’s human exploration programs are foundering, an old and automated war-horse is doing its job in scintillatingly better fashion after its recent repair.”

KSJTRACKER.MIT.EDU WAS HAPPY WITH THE NEW IMAGES TAKEN RECENTLY BY THE HUBBLE SPACE TELESCOPE.



MARC FELDMAN/GETTY IMAGES



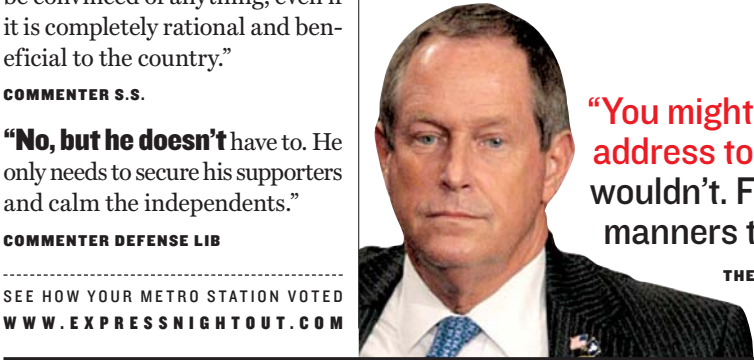
“ENOUGH IS ENOUGH. If you want a real memorial, do it legitimately. This is public space, remember? Like the road — we all must share it.”

FARMFRESHMEAT.COM IS NOT IMPRESSED WITH THE EFFORTS THURSDAY OF A MAN WHO PLACED 22 BIKES AT THE SITE WHERE BIKER ALICE SWANSON WAS KILLED IN D.C., AFTER THE CITY REMOVED THE ORIGINAL “GHOST BIKE” RECENTLY.



“Her talk show is head and shoulders above everything else on daytime TV, she’s a die-hard fan of the show, and she completely fills the nice-person quota at the judging table.”

POPEATER.COM OFFERS AN ENDORSEMENT FOR ELLEN DEGENERES AS A JUDGE ON FOX’S “AMERICAN IDOL.”



“You might expect such a response to Obama’s address to schoolchildren. Actually, no, you wouldn’t. Five-year-olds typically have better manners than this.”

THEHOLLYWOODGOSSIP.COM WAS NOT IMPRESSED WITH THE BEHAVIOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA REP. JOE WILSON DURING PRESIDENT OBAMA’S SPEECH TO CONGRESS ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT.

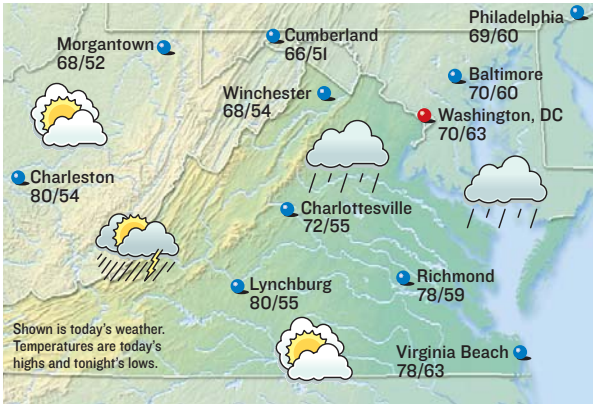
“[MARK] WHICKER ACTUALLY wrote the article. Someone actually approved it. And the Orange County Register actually published it — in case you needed evidence of the institutionalization of rape culture.”

FEMINISTING.COM WAS GREATLY OFFENDED BY A COLUMN THAT CHRONICLED WHAT KIDNAPPING VICTIM JAYCEE DUGARD MISSED IN THE SPORTS WORLD DURING THE LAST 18 YEARS.

5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area

Today	Tonight	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Mostly cloudy, showers	Mostly cloudy, showers	Partly sunny	Mostly sunny	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
70°	63°	82° / 64°	82° / 66°	84° / 66°	79° / 66°

Regional Weather



Almanac

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Thur.
Temperature
High 73°
Low 64°
Normal high 81°
Normal low 64°
Average humidity 60%

Precipitation

24 hours ending 4 p.m. Trace
Month to date 0.55"
Normal month to date 1.25"
Year to date 27.21"
Last year to date 37.63"
Normal year to date 27.51"

For up-to-the-minute weather, see:
washingtonpost.com/weather

Regional Forecast

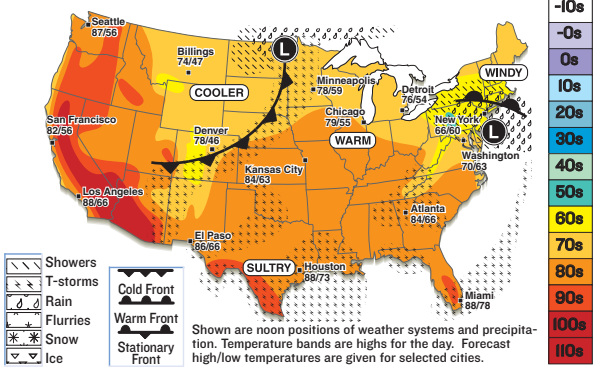
D.C. Metro: Today, mostly cloudy, showers. High 70. Wind northeast 7-14 mph. Tonight, mostly cloudy, rain. Low 63. Wind north 8-16 mph.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today 6:46 a.m.
Sunset tonight 7:23 p.m.
Moonrise today 11:25 p.m.
Moonset today 2:08 p.m.



National Weather for Friday, September 11

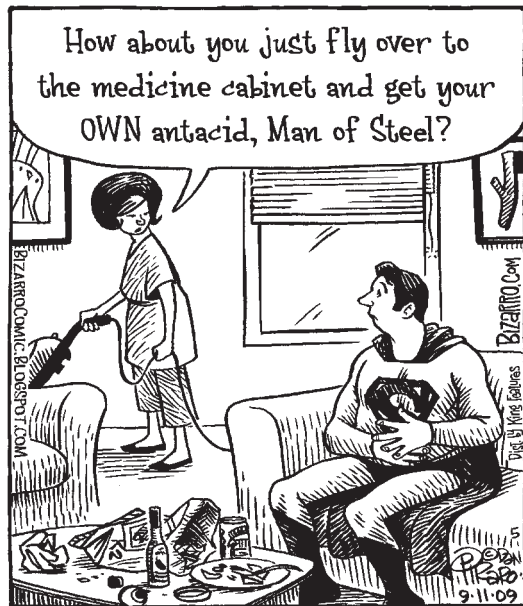


National Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	84/66/t	86/68/pc
Boston	63/58/r	65/66/sh
Chicago	79/55/pc	77/54/pc
Dallas	88/72/t	82/68/t
Denver	78/46/pc	65/47/t
Honolulu	89/75/s	89/74/pc
Los Angeles	88/66/s	82/64/pc
Miami	88/78/t	91/78/t
New York City	66/60/r	72/65/sh
Orlando	88/74/t	89/74/t
Seattle	87/56/s	88/54/s

World Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W
Amsterdam	70/52/pc	68/50/pc
Athens	76/66/sh	81/68/pc
Berlin	73/52/pc	68/50/c
Buenos Aires	63/43/s	66/46/s
Calgary	68/44/s	72/45/s
Dublin	63/46/pc	61/45/s
Geneva	75/53/s	72/50/s
Moscow	68/48/pc	66/48/sh
Rome	82/63/pc	78/61/s
Sydney	73/55/s	81/59/s
Tokyo	79/68/pc	73/66/r

Bizarro | *Dan Piraro*

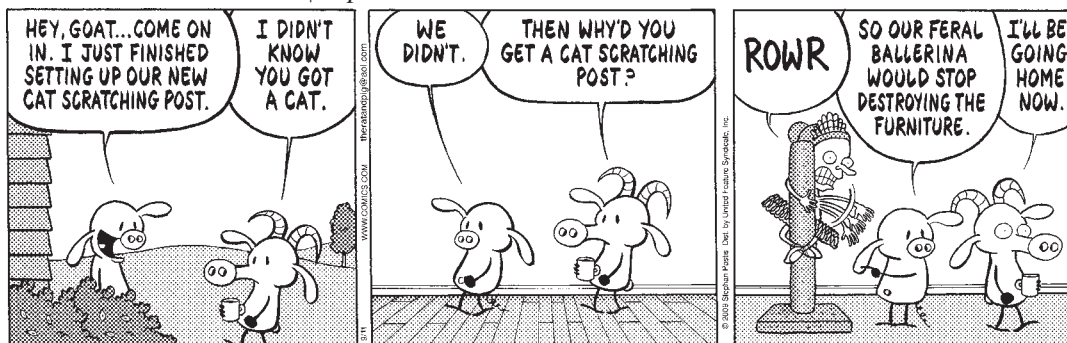
Cornered | *Mike Baldwin*



“Quit interrupting me. You always did that when you were alive too.”

Pooch Cafe | *Paul Gilligan*

Pearls Before Swine | *Stephan Pastis*



The Duplex | Glenn McCoy



Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Do you know where you stand? It may be time to get an honest appraisal from someone you trust implicitly.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You're likely to be under some unexpected pressure at home or at work as a result of a surprise development in a third venue.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21) You don't need to be front and center; indeed, what you can accomplish working in the background can win a great deal of praise.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You may not understand just how things work at this time, but you can surely take advantage of positive trends when they occur.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You may be overreacting to things at this time. If you find yourself making decisions that surprise even you, take a step back.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Your sense of humor will keep your mood bright and positive even while others are falling prey to darker, more destruc-

tive moods.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You want things to go smoothly, but you're not willing to break any rules or treat anyone unfairly to see that they do.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) The powers that be have made a decision that will begin to affect you directly before this day is out. Be ready to receive instructions.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You're likely to attract a great deal of attention by the way you buck trends and do things your own way. Some will try to imitate you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You may feel as though someone close to you isn't living up to his or her end of a bargain that was forged from mutual needs.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You're on a mission of sorts, and you can progress more quickly than usual. Others may not know what you're after — but you do.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Don't let someone take advantage of you when you decide to do the right thing. You're feeling more generous than usual.

Today in History

1789 Alexander Hamilton is appointed the first U.S. secretary of the Treasury.

1941 Groundbreaking takes place for the Pentagon outside Washington, D.C.

1954 The Miss America pageant makes its network TV debut on ABC; Miss California, Lee Meriwether, is crowned the winner.

2001 America experiences its worst day of terrorism. Nearly 3,000 people die when two hijacked jetliners smash into New York's World Trade Center, causing the twin towers to fall; a commandeered jetliner plows into the Pentagon; and a fourth hijacked plane is crashed in a field in western Pennsylvania.

2004 Spc. Armin Cruz becomes the first Military Intelligence soldier convicted in the Abu Ghraib prison scandal as he admits abusing inmates and receives



The section of the Pentagon that was hit by a plane collapses Sept. 11, 2001.

a lighter sentence in return for his testimony against others.

2008 Presidential candidates John McCain and Barack Obama put aside politics as they visit ground zero together on the anniversary of Sept. 11 to honor the attack's victims.

lookout people



GUS RUELAS/AP

When she's not bathing in her sister's tears, Ashlee likes eating cupcakes.

SISTERS
'I Don't Regret Growing Up in Your Shadow One Bit'

Jessica Simpson wants a baby, sister **ASHLEE SIMPSON-WENTZ** tells Redbook's October issue. Simpson-Wentz also says she doesn't envy her sister's single lifestyle. In other news, Simpson-Wentz loved being pregnant: "It was the healthiest I've ever been in my life. Except for the cupcakes." (EXPRESS)

TMI
Designer's Liver Enzymes Make Fashionable Debut

GIORGIO ARMANI said Thursday he was feeling "marvelously well" after winning a months-long battle with hepatitis. Several missed appearances in the spring and a gaunt appearance in June had raised concerns about his health. "I'm marvelously well; I beat my problem, the data about my liver are nearly perfect — some even better than perfect — such that I can stop taking my medicine," he said. (AP)



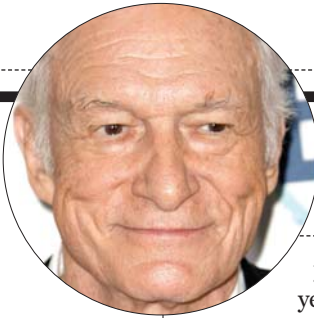
JOEL RYAN/AP

MISSIONS
Infant Acquisition Assured

KATHERINE HEIGL and her husband, Josh Kelley, are adopting a baby. Melissa Kates, Heigl's spokeswoman, confirmed the news but wouldn't provide details. RadarOnline.com said the couple's adoption process has been under way for at least six months and that the 10-month-old girl is from Korea. The baby's name is Nayleigh, according to Radar, and her nickname will be Leigh. (AP)

EW
Living Arrangements To Cause Shudders For Hours

After more than a decade of separation, **HUGH HEFNER** has filed for divorce from his wife, Kimberly, who he married in 1989. They separated in 1998. Hefner continued to live at the mansion, and Kimberly Hefner moved into a home next door with the couple's two



We needed special paper to print a story this creepy.

young sons. In recent years, Hefner and his girlfriends — who have included Holly Madison, Kendra Wilkinson and Bridget Marquardt — have starred on "The Girls Next Door." His relationships with all three have since ended, and he's now living with three new women, including twins. (AP)

HEALED
Singer Returns to Stage After Kidney Transplant

NATALIE COLE has returned to the concert stage for first time since her kidney transplant in May.



The 59-year-old singer performed Wednesday night at the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles. She received a standing ovation from the crowd as she walked onto the stage in a purple gown. Cole sang songs from her latest album, "Still Unforgettable," and hits from her Grammy-winning career. (AP)



Just to be clear: These are the dancers, not the stars. No need for alarm.

EASIER
ABC Show Can't Wait to Employ Robots as Dancers

"Dancing With the Stars" pros **KARINA SMIRNOFF** and **MAKSIM CHMERKOVSKIY** are no longer in step with one another. Susan Madore, a publicist who works on the ABC television dance competition, says the two professional dancers broke off their engagement over the weekend. Smirnoff and Chmerkovskiy will continue to appear on "Dancing With the Stars." (AP)

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EDITED BY TIMOTHY F. BARKER

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SEUS PUBLICATIONS LLC | 1150 15TH ST NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20071 | A SUBSIDIARY OF THE WASHINGTON POST COMPANY
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Bike A MAJOR ARTERY

To Save a Woman's Heart

Sunday, October 11 at 8am

Join Sister to Sister's BIKE FOR THE HEART and enjoy the ride of a lifetime down a car-free Pennsylvania Avenue. Help save women's lives through screenings, education and health empowerment. Plus, help us lower the risk of the #1 cause of women's death—heart disease. Choose from these three events:

America's Main Streeter
A family friendly, 5-mile ride past the US Capitol and the White House.

Arena Spinathon
The ultimate spinning experience on the floor of the Verizon Center.

Heart of the Nation Time Trial
A 5-mile race past the nation's most recognizable landmarks.



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Proceeds from the race will directly fund more heart screenings, helping to identify women at risk and reverse the effects of this deadly disease. For a listing of participating organizations, visit www.BikefortheHeart.org